

Jaime Long
Public Information Officer
252-726-7056 ext. 7423
jaime.long@carteretcountync.gov



Amanda Tesch
Public Information Officer
252-222-5841
amanda.tesch@carteretcountync.gov

For Immediate Release:

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Public Safety Message

Hurricane Florence has made landfall. Carteret County residents are advised that it is NOT safe to leave your shelter and go outside. There are many trees, power lines and other debris in the streets. Everyone is urged to stay in place. There is a tornado watch in the area until at least 5:00 p.m. today, Friday, September 14, 2018.

Power lines may still be live, even if they are down. Every downed power line is potentially energized and dangerous until utility crews arrive on the scene to ensure power has been cut off. Downed power lines, stray wires, and debris in contact with them all have the potential to deliver a fatal shock. Same for power lines that may be on your vehicle. Stay far away and keep others away from downed power lines.

Please also be aware of potential flooding as storm surge is still of high threat.

If you must use a grill, it should be used only outside. Do NOT bring the grill inside due to the risk of carbon monoxide. Citizens are advised to take caution if and when using a generator, avoid carbon monoxide poisoning from the toxic engine exhaust, electric shock or electrocution, and fire. To avoid electrocution, keep the generator dry and do not use in rain or wet conditions. Operate it on a dry surface. Do not touch the generator with wet hands.

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