

# CARTERET COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER



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For immediate release:

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Public Safety Message

Carteret County, NC – Carteret County has experienced significant impacts from Hurricane Florence. Lt. Governor Dan Forest visited the County to observe the County's Emergency Operations Center and survey areas of damage.

Due to the significant amount of flooding with this storm, emergency responders have performed 81 rescue missions in Newport and continue to operate. Currently, there are six (6) operations teams performing rescues within Newport and South River. Rescue efforts have continued to be challenging due to downed trees and power lines.

Carteret County began evacuating citizens on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 and sheltering citizens on Wednesday, September 12, 2018. The Carteret County Area Transportation System (CCATS) transported over 140 citizens to inland shelters, to include Knightdale, NC, Garner, NC and Goldsboro, NC. There are currently 372 citizens and 132 pets at the Newport Middle School emergency shelter. Carteret County also assisted the Humane Society in transporting 20 cats and 20 dogs to the Newport Middle School emergency shelter location.

Throughout the County, there are several roads closed due to flooding and downed trees. Crews began clearing some of the area roads yesterday, but there is still an extensive amount that are impassible. Harkers Island is cut off as the result of a washed out road at the base of the bridge and officials are working with Department of Transportation to repair the road. For updates of impassible roads, please visit the link at:

Power outages continue to be a problem for a majority of the County and could be out for a significant number of days. Today, Duke Energy and Carteret Craven began responding to these outages. Please visit <https://www.duke-energy.com/outages> and <http://outage.carteretcraven.coop/> for more information regarding outages.

Property damage in the area is high. While most homes experienced minor shingle and siding damage, there is an extensive amount of homes with damage from falling trees and high flood waters. The flood water areas east of Beaufort, NC (Down East) were up to 12 feet in homes.

Cell phone service has been interrupted and slow. In the event of an emergency, please call 911. If your call is unable to be connected, you may text 911.

Resources are becoming limited. We have reports that some fuel stations are currently open

though access to individual propane tanks is unknown at this time.

Carteret County is still enforcing a curfew from dusk to dawn throughout the County. We encourage citizens to adhere to curfews for safety and so emergency responders progress is not impeded.

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