

Hurricane Florence Press Release

Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 1:45 PM

JONES COUNTY, NC -- Jones County Government Officials have declared a State of Emergency for Jones County residents due to the severity of Hurricane Florence which is projected to make landfall in Eastern North Carolina later this week.

Hurricane Florence has recently upgraded to Category 4 hurricane and is projected to make landfall by Thursday night or early Friday morning. Due to the severe nature of this storm and the projected track, the Jones County Board of Commissioners has declared a State of Emergency and are encouraging citizens to evacuate and seek shelter west of Goldsboro.

Due to the size of this storm and projected path near and along the Jones and Onslow County line, we are issuing a Mandatory Evacuation effective immediately. Our designated facilities for shelters are not built to withstand category 4 and greater hurricanes. Jones County has limited resources to include staff and supplies for shelters until post storm and state supplies are available.

There will be a period of time during this storm that we will be limited and or unable to respond to emergency calls. Heeding this evacuation order will ensure the personal safety of all our citizens and first responders.

Transportation to out of County Shelters will be available at Jones Senior High School starting at 10 am Wednesday. Registration for citizens who will be utilizing county transportation and evacuating to shelters should be ready to register tomorrow, September 12th by 9:00 a.m. and buses are scheduled to leave by 10:00 a.m. tomorrow morning. Please plan to be at the pickup site before registration time.

Buses and seating will be limited so this transportation will be reserved for those citizens that do not have transportation to evacuate. Residents are invited and even encouraged to caravan and follow the evacuation buses to the inland shelters.

If you and your family plan to seek shelter out of county with the Jones County evacuation team please call the Jones County EOC at (252) 397-0007 to register your members. Please plan to bring all essential items for a lengthy stay at the shelter. Residents will not have the opportunity to leave until safety is declared within the County.