

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FAYETTEVILLE - Cumberland County Emergency Services has been advised in consultation with the National Weather Service that Tropical Storm Hanna has changed course somewhat overnight and is now expected to make landfall somewhere between Charleston and Myrtle Beach, S. C. Earlier, the storm was expected to make landfall in the Wilmington, NC vicinity.

The storm, once it makes landfall at about 2 a.m. on Saturday morning, will travel north up the I-95 corridor and this path includes Cumberland County. Sustained winds of 20 to 40 mph are expected, with gusts up to 60 mph, between 3 and 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 6. As much as 2 to 4 inches of rain could result as the storm moves through.

The storm is expected to result in downed trees and possible power issues. Cumberland County is opening three shelters at 7 p.m. on Friday evening, September 5, to provide refuge for those who seek it. They are:

- Mac Williams Middle School, Clinton Road
- SouthView High School, Elk Road
- Seabrook Recreation Center, Seabrook Road, which will serve as the Special Needs shelter for those with special medical conditions or physical challenges

Representatives from the American Red Cross, local law enforcement, the Health Department and the Mental Health Department will staff the shelters. Citizens are advised to bring pillows, blankets, sleeping bags, medicines and personal hygiene items. Service animals, such as seeing-eye dogs, will be permitted at these shelters, but only service animals. A list of pet-friendly hotels and veterinarian offices offering boarding is available from Emergency Services, (910) 321-6735.

Citizens who have storm-related questions can call the Emergency Operations Center at (910)677-5509.

Any updates resulting from subsequent National Weather Service briefings will be communicated to local media.

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