



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Emergency Services

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County Observes Hurricane Preparedness Week May 24-30

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County Emergency Services will observe North Carolina Hurricane Preparedness Week May 24-30 by encouraging citizens to be prepared by updating emergency plans and supply kits. The Board of Commissioners approved a proclamation May 18 declaring May 24-30 Hurricane Preparedness Week in the county.

Hurricane season officially begins June 1 and runs through November. Traditionally, mid-August through mid-October is the most active time for hurricanes in North Carolina.

“It’s important to act now, before storms strike,” said Emergency Services Director Randy Beeman. “Those who take the time to discuss their emergency plans and assemble or update those supply kits will have peace of mind and be better prepared to survive a storm and recover from it.”

A disaster-preparedness kit should contain enough non-perishable food and a gallon of water per person, per day, to last three to seven days. Other essential items include:

- Copies of insurance papers and ID in a sealed, watertight plastic bag.
- First-aid kit
- Weather radio and batteries
- Supply of prescription medicines
- Sleeping bag or blankets
- Changes of clothes
- Hygiene items such as toothbrush, toothpaste, soap and deodorant
- Cash or checkbook
- Pet supplies including food, water, leashes, muzzle and vaccination records.

Residents should also review and update their homeowners’ or renters’ insurance policies to make sure they include coverage for accidental damage, natural disasters and, if necessary, flood insurance.

Citizens should stay informed during a storm by keeping a battery-powered radio for weather and evacuation information and should know evacuation routes in their community. They also need to heed warnings of state and local officials and evacuate quickly when advised.

For more information about Emergency Services, call 910-678-7688, or to sign up for the free CodeRED emergency and severe weather notification service, visit co.cumberland.nc.us. You can also receive weather updates and other valuable information from Emergency Services at facebook.com/CumberlandCountyNC911.