



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 17, 2016

Emergency Services

Contact: Randy Beeman, Director

Telephone: 910-678-7688

E-mail: rbeeman@co.cumberland.nc.us

County Observes Hurricane Preparedness Week May 15-21

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County Emergency Services is observing North Carolina Hurricane Preparedness Week May 15-21 and encourages residents to be prepared by updating emergency plans and supply kits. The Board of Commissioners approved a proclamation on Monday, May 16, declaring May 15-21 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. “Take the time now to discuss your emergency plan and assemble a supply kit, so that you 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.

You can learn more about hurricanes or other types of disaster or emergency preparedness by visiting readync.org. To sign up for the free emergency and the County’s severe weather notification service, CodeRED, visit Cumberland County Emergency Services at co.cumberland.nc.us or call 910-678-7641 or 910-321-6676.

-end-