

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**  
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Time: 12:30 August 25, 2011

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Rel. # 1

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Brunswick County is currently under a tropical storm watch for Hurricane Irene. Hurricane Irene remains a major hurricane with sustained winds of 115 miles per hour. Currently the Storm is located approximately 600 miles south southeast of Wilmington and is expected to maintain its current course which will have it passing about 75 miles to the east of Brunswick County.

Based on the current forecast, the main threat from Hurricane Irene will be tropical storm winds, coastal flooding and minor storm surge. While we expect tropical storm winds from Irene, residents should plan for a category 1 hurricane due to the large span of the storm and the fact that a small shift could place hurricane force winds over portions of the county.

Based on the current forecast, voluntary evacuations of low lying areas, areas prone to flooding, mobile homes and homes that are subject to damage that are within the unincorporated areas of Brunswick County will begin Friday morning. Shelters will be opened at North Brunswick High School located at 114 Scorpion Drive in Leland and West Brunswick High School located at 550 Whiteville Road in Shallotte at 5pm Friday evening. West Brunswick will be a pet friendly shelter, however, it is recommended that those evacuating with pets should take them to the Brunswick County Animal Services Office located on Green Swamp Road, Supply.

Brunswick County Schools will dismiss early on Friday, Elementary schools will dismiss at 11:50am, High Schools at 12:50pm and Middle Schools at 12:55pm.

Brunswick County Emergency Services will be monitoring this situation very closely, please stay tuned to local media for updates and further information, you can also follow us on Facebook (Brunswick County Emergency Services) and on Twitter (@BrunscocoES).

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