



News Release

For Release: Immediate

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Contact: Athina Williams,
Town Administrator
Phone: (910)371-2456

TOWN OF BELVILLE PREPARES FOR HURRICANE MATTHEW; MAYOR MIKE ALLEN ISSUES STATE OF EMERGENCY

Belville – The National Weather Service indicated that there is a strong possibility that the Town of Belville will receive some of the effects of Hurricane Matthew including high winds and heavy rain, if the storm continues on the same path and speed as it is now traveling. Mayor Mike Allen declared a State of Emergency, which will go into effect at 6am on Friday morning.

All residents and business owners are advised to secure boats, outdoor furniture, building materials, and any other objects that could blow around in high winds. Citizens are advised to keep vehicles fueled and familiarize yourself with evacuation routes.

The Brunswick Riverwalk at Belville will be closed all day on Friday and will reopen as weather conditions permit.

The following is a list of locations for emergency shelters in Brunswick County:

Shelters will open at 8 a.m. at West Brunswick High School (550 Whiteville Rd., Shallotte), North Brunswick High School (114 Scorpion Drive, Leland) and South Brunswick High School (100 Cougar Road, Boiling Spring Lakes). Residents evacuating to a shelter should bring identification, any needed medications, any needed items like glasses or diapers, clothing for 3-7 days, pillows, toiletries, chargers for cell phones, and books, games or cards. Residents should bring sheets or bedding, and cots and air mattresses if available. Alcohol, illegal substances, and weapons are not permitted.

Those evacuating can find a map of shelters in Brunswick County at www.brunswickcountync.gov/map, or find a map of all open shelters in North Carolina in the free Ready NC app (downloadable at <https://readync.org/EN/DOWNLOADAPP.html>).

Dogs and cats are accepted at the West Brunswick High School shelter, but not the North Brunswick High School or South Brunswick High School shelters. Owners must stay at the shelter as well, and should bring documentation of rabies vaccines, food, any medicines, and any other items necessary for your pets. Residents who are evacuating may also take pets to the Brunswick County Animal Shelter. Animals must be reclaimed within three days of the State of Emergency being lifted. Please contact Brunswick County Emergency Services for more information at (910)253-5383.

Town officials are in constant contact with emergency management officials and the weather service. Stay tuned to your local radio and television stations for any additional information.

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