

**CAROLINE COUNTY, MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES  
PRESS RELEASE**



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Date: August 26, 2011 Time: 11:00  
Location: Federalsburg, Caroline County, Maryland  
Goldsboro, Caroline County, Maryland  
Event: **Emergency Shelter Openings**

Caroline County government is preparing for Hurricane Irene. A local state of emergency was declared by the County Commissioners beginning at noon on Friday, August 26.

**Emergency shelters will be open at Federalsburg Volunteer Fire Company and Goldsboro Volunteer Fire Company beginning at 10:00 AM on Saturday, August 27** as a precautionary measure. Residents of low-lying, flood prone areas and mobile homes are encouraged to seek alternative housing or stay in the emergency shelters.

Medically fragile residents must have a caregiver accompany them to the emergency shelter. Pets, except guide dogs, are not allowed in the emergency shelters. Please make arrangements to board your pets. Limited assistance is available through the Humane Society by calling 410.820.1600.

Each shelter has capacity for 200 – 300 people, but accommodations are very basic. When going to a shelter, bring the following items:

- Changes of clothes, including shoes
- Personal hygiene supplies
- Blankets, pillows
- Special dietary requirements
- Medications/prescriptions
- Books, games, magazines and other entertainment activities, especially for children
- Important papers, credit cards, and cash
- Formula, baby food, and diapers.

The best safety measure for your family is to be prepared for the storm. Citizens should prepare or check their Disaster Supply Kits. At a minimum, a disaster supply kit should include:

- Battery-operated radio
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- Manual can opener
- 3-day supply of water and non-perishable food per person
- Blankets and pillows
- Change of clothes per person including shoes
- Important Documents; copies of insurance policies, identification, bank account records in a waterproof portable container
- Special items such as formula, diapers, baby food, snacks, medications, etc.

Remember to fill your vehicles with gas prior to the onset of the storm and to fully charge your cell phones as well. Secure or store any items that can blow around and cause damage, such as yard ornaments, bird baths, lawn furniture, trash cans, and grills. Flying debris can be very dangerous.

If at all possible, boats should be removed from the water and secured on land. Boat owners should secure their boats with heavier lines, remove all valuables, and disconnect utilities. Boaters should listen to marine broadcasts and be making preparations now. Do not stay on your boat during the storm.

All residents are urged to monitor local television/cable, radio (WCEI – 96.7), and NOAA Weather Radios for updates on the storm.

If you need preparedness information or have questions, contact the Department of Emergency Services at 410-479-2622.

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**Message Release to the Following:**

Comcast Cable     WCEI     Star Democrat     Times Record  
 Caroline Review     WCEM     WBOC (Channel 16)     WMDT (Channel 47)  
 WBAL (Channel 11)     WJZ (Channel 13)  
 Other     Other     Other