













National Weather Service Overview

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

September 13th, 2022 Erik Heden, Warning Coordination Meteorologist NWS Morehead City, NC





Our Local Office



Eastern part of North
Carolina

Includes: Land areas, inland rivers, sounds, and adjacent ocean

Other parts of the state covered by other local offices (Raleigh, Wilmington, Wakefield etc)





Our Website



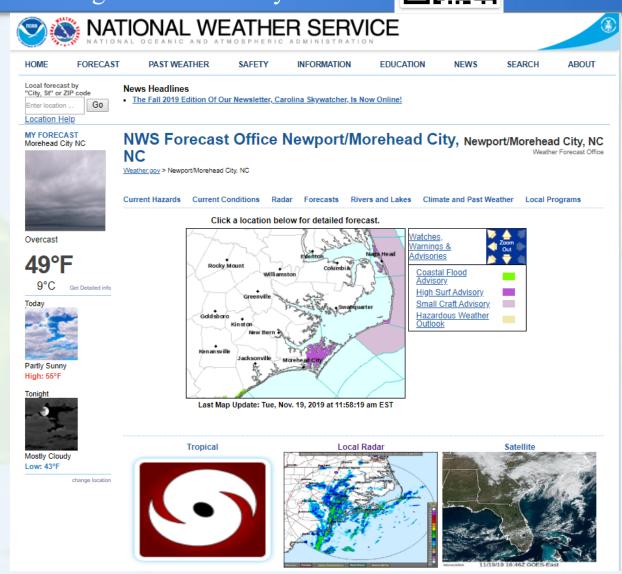


weather.gov/moreheadcity

Weather information from past events, current weather, and forecast

Explore the website and bookmark or save what you like

Go in depth as much as you need

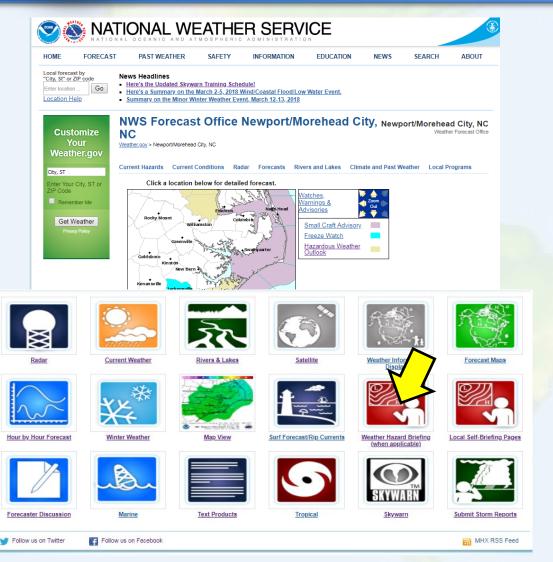


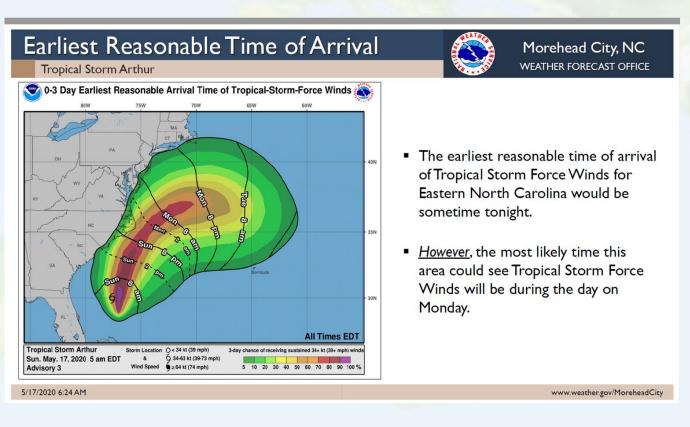


Weather Briefings



weather.gov/moreheadcity









Social Media



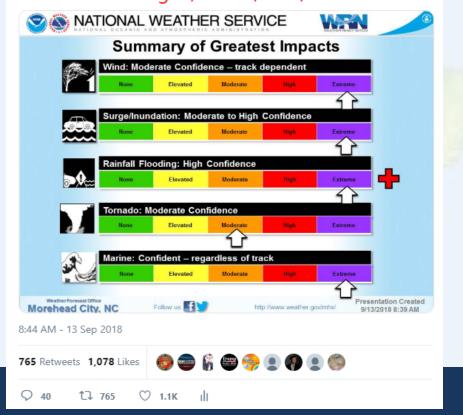


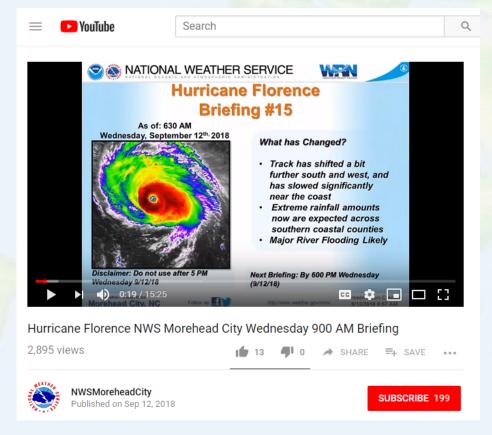


Search NWS Morehead City



Category of the storm is only related to wind, it does not tell you about all of the impacts with a #hurricane like #florence. Our impacts have not changed with storm surge and catastrophic flooding. Do not let your guard down. weather.gov/media/mhx/Late...



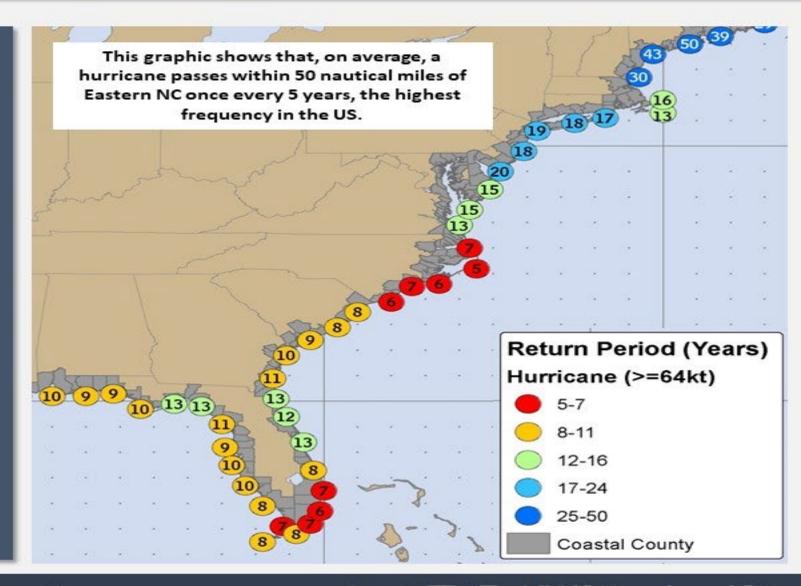


Hurricane Florence Lead Up

Tropical Cyclone Frequency

Eastern North Carolina is the most frequently impacted stretch of coastline by tropical systems in the US.

NOW is the time to prepare. Resources will be much more limited if you wait until a storm is approaching to prepare.



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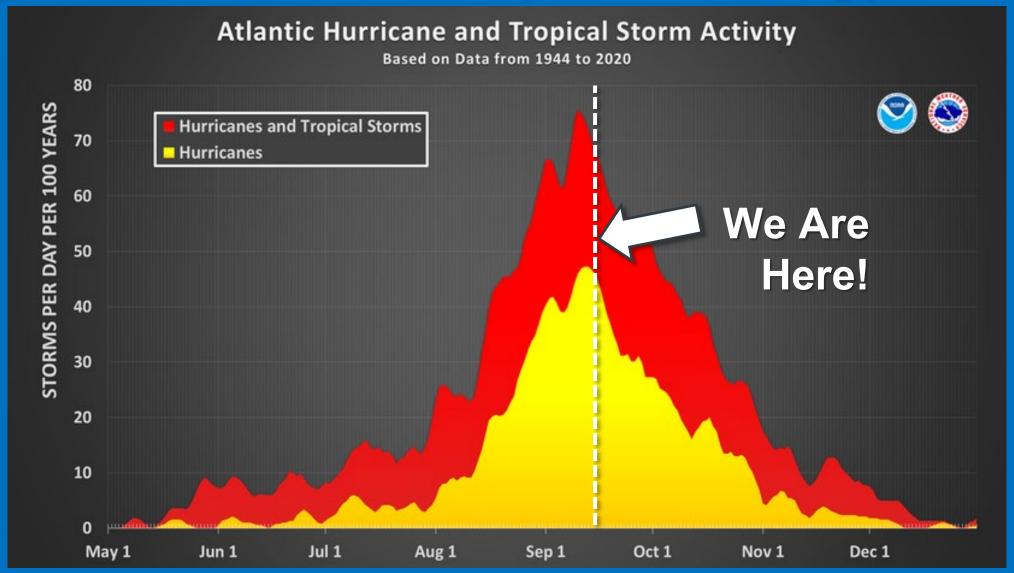








Atlantic Activity Climatology





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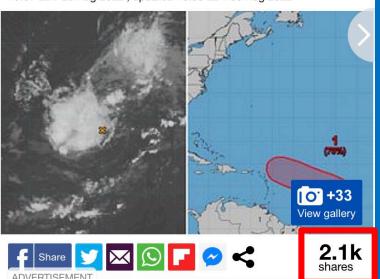
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Trusted Sources Are Important!



US braces for a battering by THREE potential hurricanes in September - including one that could spoil Labor Day for millions - after boiling August which saw no named storms for only the third time in 60 years

By Harriet Alexander For Dailymail.com 19:07 EDT 29 Aug 2022, updated 10:35 EDT 30 Aug 2022





'Storm of the season' threatens US coast: Tropical storm forming in Atlantic has 80% chance of turning into hurricane by Labor Day - after Saharan dust suppressed severe weather over the Atlantic

By Joseph Michalitsianos For Dailymail.Com 13:53 EDT 30 Aug 2022, updated 14:01 EDT 30 Aug 2022



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Trusted Sources Are Important!





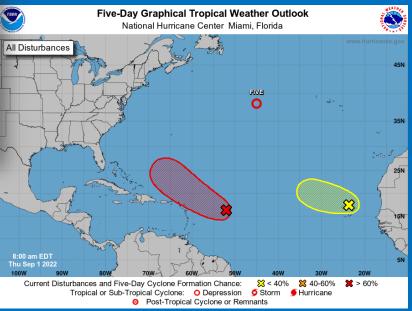




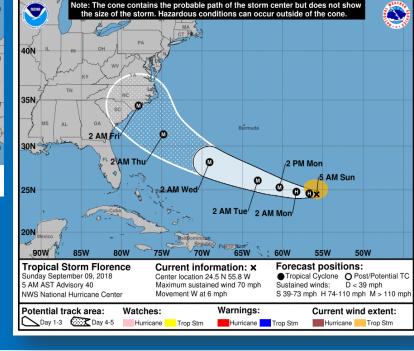








weather.gov/moreheadcity/tropical



Our Website

weather.gov/moreheadcity/hurricaneprep





Modeled after hurricane awareness week

Graphics and information on how to prepare

Graphics and information on ALL impacts from a tropical cyclone

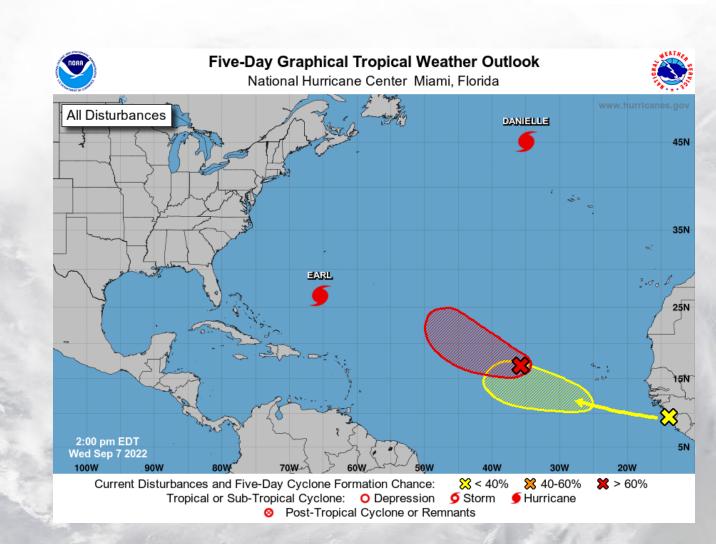
NC Flood Maps

National Hurricane Cer

Hurricanes.gov or weather.gov/moreheadcity/tropical

Tropical Weather Outlook

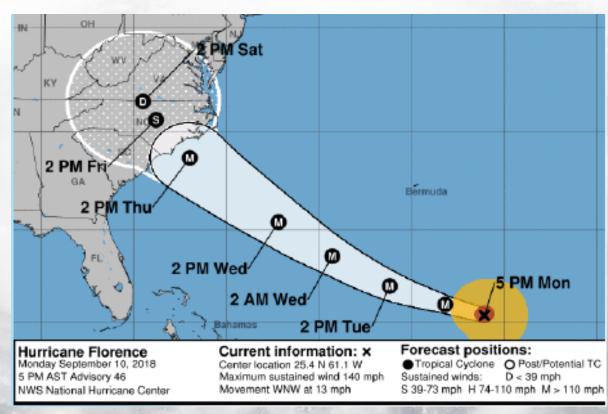
- Issued 4 times a day
- 8 and 2 AM/PM EDT
- Tropical cyclone formation potential for next 5 days
- Does not give information beyond 5 days!



National Hurricane Ce

Tropical Cyclone Track Forecast Cone Watches/Warnings Initial Wind Field

- Cone represents probable path of the CENTER of the storm
- The cone does NOT show impacts
- Impacts can occur HUNDREDS of miles from the center of the storm
- The center of the storm passes within the cone roughly of the time



National Hurricane Cente

Hurricanes.gov or weather.gov/moreheadcity/tropical

Earliest Reasonable Arrival Time Tropical Storm Force Winds

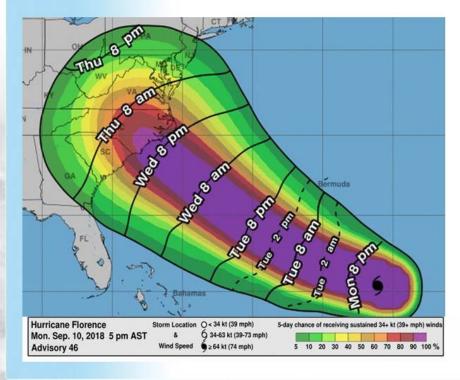
- Reasonable worse case scenario
- Identifies a window when preparations should be made by
- While times are given, especially farther out, focus in more general terms
- For example instead of Wednesday 8 PM or Thursday 8 AM







Earliest Time of Arrival Hurricane Florence



- Tropical storm force winds could arrive as early as Wednesday evening.
- All preparations for Florence should be completed by Wednesday evening

Sometime late Wednesday or early Thursday

Morehead City, NC



http://www.weather.gov/mhx/

9/10/2018 6:03 PM

National Hurricane Cen

Hurricanes.gov or weather.gov/moreheadcity/tropical



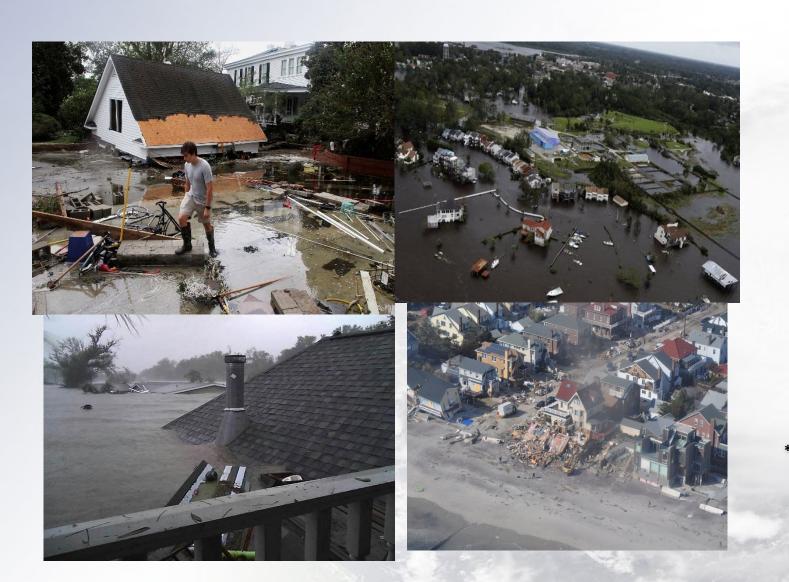
Most Likely Arrival Time Tropical Storm Force Winds

- Most likely scenario
- Identifies a window when we expect tropical storm force winds to arrive
- While times are given, especially farther out, focus in more general terms
- For example instead of Monday 8
 AM

Sometime Monday Morning



It's About the Impacts



2010 – 2019 in the U.S., Category 1 hurricanes*

175 direct deaths \$105 billion

*Irene, Isaac, Sandy, Hermine, Matthew, Nate, Florence, Barry, Dorian

Tropical Cyclones Produce More Than Just Wind

Rainfall Flooding
Storm Surge
Rip Currents
Wind
Tornadoes

Flash Flooding

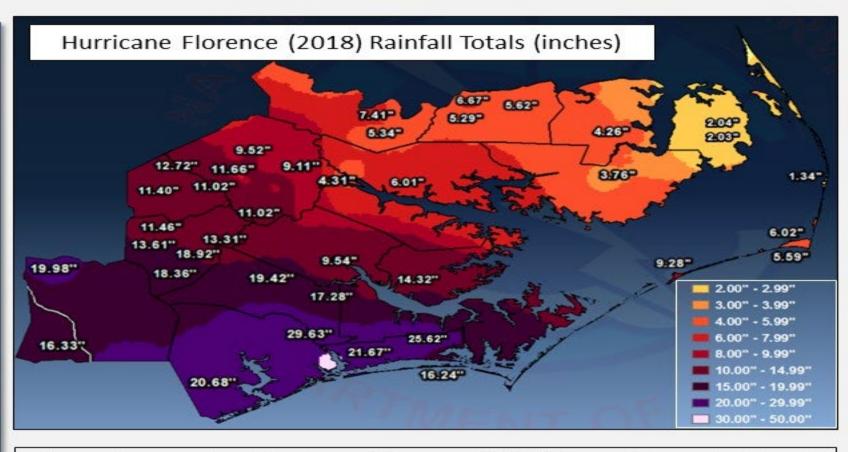
Heavy rainfall is common in tropical cyclones.

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NWS Morehead City will issue Flash Flood Warnings as needed during a hurricane, so make sure you have a way to receive warnings, such as a NOAA Weather Radio.

•••

A hurricane's category is **not** an indication of the amount of rainfall it will bring. More important is the movement and size of the storm.



Very slow-moving Hurricane Florence (2018) brought nearly 3 ft of rainfall to portions of eastern NC, resulting in catastrophic flash flooding that destroyed infrastructure and made travel impossible.





River Flooding

River flooding can last for weeks to months after a hurricane, impacting travel and inundating communities.

• • •

Inland areas not vulnerable to storm surge could still be vulnerable to river flooding.

• • •

River flooding in our area is partially dependent on local rainfall, but more so on rainfall further inland.



Hurricane Matthew (2016) brought devastating flooding to much of eastern NC despite the highest rainfall totals falling inland of our area. River levels peaked almost a week after the storm, with many major roadways closed and business and residences inundated.

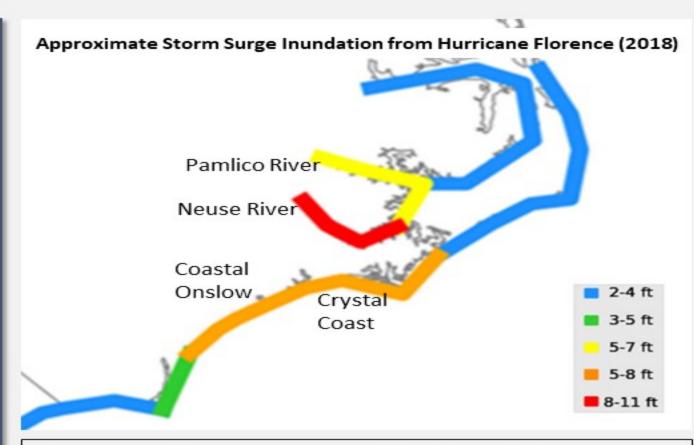


Storm Surge

Much of eastern North Carolina is vulnerable to Storm Surge.

Do not assess your storm surge vulnerability based on previous storms. Know your elevation and monitor the forecast when a storm approaches.

Wave action can add to the damage done by storm surge.



Hurricane Florence produced the highest storm surge on record in some locations. Some people in locations like New Bern were skeptical of forecasts because they had never witnessed that level of storm surge before.





National Weather Service

Rip Currents and Dangerous Surf

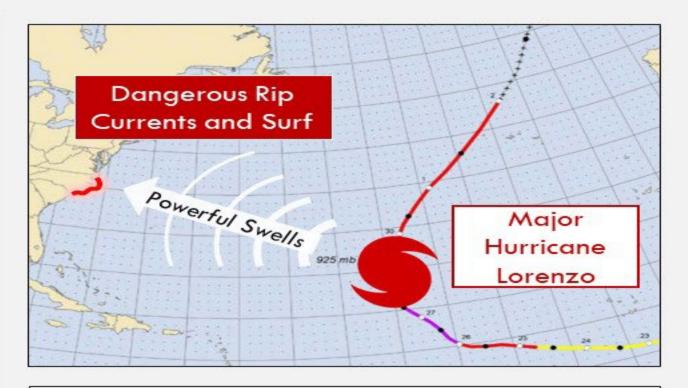
Distant hurricanes product strong swells, bringing dangerous rip currents to local beaches on otherwise nice weather days.

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Always check the forecast before you head to the beach, obey beach flags, and swim near a lifeguard.

IF CAUGHT IN A RIP CURRENT

- Relax, rip currents don't pull you under.
- Don't swim against the current.
- Swim out of the current, then to shore.
- If you can't escape, float or tread water.
- ♦ If you need help, yell or wave for assistance.



Major Hurricane Lorenzo (2019) passed well out to sea, but sent powerful swell to the Carolinas creating strong rip currents and dangerous surf conditions along our beaches. There were 8 total Lorenzo-related surf deaths on the east coast, including 4 in the Carolinas.

Tornadoes

Can Occur Well BEFORE A Storm Arrives (First Rain Bands)

Tornadoes can bring localized areas of much more extensive damage during (and ahead of) hurricanes.

NWS Morehead City will issue Tornado Warnings as needed during a hurricane, so make sure you have a way to receive warnings, such as a NOAA Weather Radio.



A tornado (seen coming onshore as a waterspout via Surfline Camera, top) caused extensive damage on Emerald Isle ahead of the main core of Hurricane Dorian (2019). A Tornado Warning was issued and no injuries were reported.









National Weather Service



What Can You Do Now?















weather.gov/moreheadcity/hurricaneprep

- Complete hurricane kit
- Don't make your decisions just on the Category!!
- Impacts can occur well outside of the forecast cone!!
- Focus on ALL impacts (flooding, surge, rip currents, wind, tornadoes)
- Don't forget about after the storm





Questions?













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Encourage you to visit youtube.com/nwsmoreheadcity