



700 Sunset Boulevard North • Sunset Beach, NC 28468

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Susan Parker, Town Administrator

For Immediate Release: October 7, 2016

SUNSET BEACH MEDIA RELEASE

Sunset Beach Issues a Mandatory Evacuation Order for Island Visitors

Prepare for possibility of life-threatening flash-flooding

SUNSET BEACH, NC – The National Weather Service has issued a **HURRICANE WARNING** for Sunset Beach and is also warning residents that life-threatening flash flooding is possible due to conditions from Hurricane Matthew.

Sunset Beach has issued a mandatory evacuation order for island visitors in preparation for the impacts of Hurricane Matthew. Increased levels of rainfall in excess of 15 inches and tropical wind speeds are expected beginning Friday night. The high likelihood of a 4-6 foot storm surge, localized flooding and the possibility of communication and power outages due to falling limbs and trees has prompted this declaration.

“The shift in the storm and intensity poses a real threat and will compromise the pass ability of roads and also result in business closures”, stated Fire Chief Kevin Dempsey

“We urge visitors and residents to evacuate today and not tomorrow”, said Mayor Robert Forrester. Public officials encourage residents to sign up for the emergency notification alert system on the website (www.sunsetbeachnc.gov) and monitor both the Town of Sunset Beach website and Facebook page. We encourage residents to prepare a disaster readiness kit as detailed on the Federal Emergency Management website (www.Ready.gov/build-a-kit).

The impacts of Hurricane Matthew have also prompted a voluntary evacuation for island residents and residents living in low-lying or flood prone areas on the mainland. Shelters are open 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). West Brunswick High School is a pet-friendly shelter.

Mayor: Robert Forrester • Mayor Pro-Tem: Carol Scott
Town Council: Rich Cerrato • Mark Benton

Part of North Carolina's Brunswick Islands



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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.

Town Hall will cease issuing Re-Entry Passes at 1:00PM today and Town Hall will close at 3:00PM.

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