



Cape Charles Gazette Special Edition

Publication Date: August 26, 2011

We hope that you will enjoy reading the Cape Charles Gazette which is the electronic newsletter published from time to time by the Town Manager on behalf of the municipal government of the Town of Cape Charles. The Gazette provides a variety of information that we believe will be useful to the citizens and businesses of Cape Charles as well as those who plan to travel to Cape Charles or have any interest in our Town or the Town's government. The Gazette provides information on actions being undertaken or being considered by the Town government, upcoming activities in the Town, important public safety and security issues and emergency announcements.

We welcome your responses which may be sent to gazette@capecharles.org, by regular mail to 2 Plum Street, Cape Charles, VA 23310 or by calling (757) 331-3259.

We also encourage you to visit the Town's website at www.capecharles.org where you will find up-to-date information about the operation of the Town government.



Courtesy of Nancy Vest

HURRICANE IRENE INFORMATION / UPDATE

Issued @ 0800 on August 26, 2011

Issuing Authorities:

Northampton County - Hollye Carpenter, EM Coordinator

Northampton County Emergency Management officials have declared a local emergency and are advising all residents to prepare for a significant impact from Hurricane Irene. Residents should expect and prepare for high winds, 2 to 5 foot of storm surge, 6 to 7 feet above normal tides, 7 to 12 inches of rain causing flash flooding, and high waves causing tidal flooding. These conditions will begin Saturday morning and continue into Sunday morning. Tropical Storm force winds are expected to impact Northampton County around noon on Saturday, with Hurricane force winds expected after sunset on Saturday.

Effective immediately Emergency Management is issuing mandatory evacuation orders of campgrounds, mobile homes, low lying areas prone to flooding due to heavy rains and any homes located in the bayside and seaside coastal areas, prone to tidal flooding.

The County will be opening a shelter at the Northampton County High School in Eastville at 7PM this evening and will accept individuals until filled. Pets are not permitted. Individuals going to the shelter may bring food, blankets, clothing, family medication and flashlights. Radios are permitted only if they are played quietly. Smoking is not permitted. Individuals going to the shelter must be self-sufficient for at least 3 days.

The progress of Hurricane Irene's projected path, wind speed and rainfall totals may change rapidly. Residents should closely monitor their [local](#) media outlets for additional emergency information.

EMAIL CONTACTS:

[Mayor](#)
[Town Council](#)
[Town Manager](#)
[Treasurer](#)
[Town Clerk](#)
[Code Enforcement](#)
[Town Planner](#)
[Public Works/Utilities](#)
[Harbor](#)
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Please be aware that if you choose not to heed the mandatory evacuation, emergency services will not be available in your area until after the storm has passed.

The EOC – Emergency Office Command will be opened Saturday morning and located at the Court House in Eastville. The number is 678-0442.

Mayor Sullivan and the Town staff appreciate everyone's assistance during this period. All police officers are on standby, along with the Fire Department and County Emergency Services. For emergencies, please call 911 or 678-0458.

Thank you,



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Below is a list of items for consideration to avoid damages from the winds that will come with the storm:

SECURE ALL OUTDOOR ITEMS IN CASE OF STRONG WINDS AND/OR FLOODING:

- Lawn / yard furniture (tables, chairs, umbrellas, etc.)
- Grills
- Decorative items

DEBRIS:

- The Public Works crew will be picking up all loose debris in the alleys and along the streets.
- Debris pickup will then be suspended until after the storm has passed.
- The trash barrels at the beach are being picked up and the trash receptacles on the fishing pier are being secured. Several trash receptacles are still located on the sidewalk along the beach.
- Please **DO NOT** put any yard debris, brush or other trash on the street curb. Any debris can pose a safety hazard in strong winds and will clog storm drains if any flooding occurs.

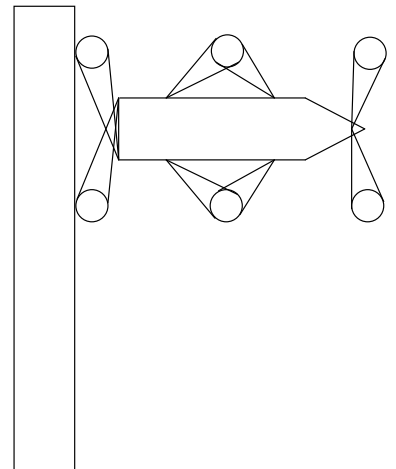
HIGH WATER:

- **DO NOT** drive your vehicle through high water. If you cannot see the pavement, **DO NOT** go through it.
- This could cause irreparable damage to your vehicle.
- The wake created from driving through the water could cause damage to the houses along the street.

INFORMATION ON SECURING YOUR BOAT

Harbor Master Smitty Dize offered the following advice to help you prepare and secure your boat:

- If you own a boat that can be taken out of the water, you should do so. Once you get the boat to its destination and if it is going to remain outside, you can do 1 of 2 things:
 - Purchase 4 ground anchors and 2 ratchet straps. Place 2 anchors near the bow on both sides and place 2 anchors near the stern on both sides and run the straps across the top. Have the bow blocked up a little higher than the stern so the water will run out.
 - Make the boat as level as possible, insert the boat plug and fill the boat with water.
- If the boat / vessel must stay at the Harbor or in a marina:
 - **Make sure the batteries are fully charged before the storm because the power will most likely be shut off around the docks due to high water.**
 - Make sure all scupper holes are clear and that the automatic bilge pumps work properly.
 - Make sure that anything loose is tied down.
 - When adding extra lines, make sure the lines are at the top of the piling and that all lines leading in the same direction have equal tension. *(Please see diagram)*



Any reference to an external website is for public information only and does not constitute an endorsement of that website.

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2 Plum Street
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