



## Piedmont Triad AmRRON ExSum

# Hurricane Florence

### Key Judgments:

All residents should continue to closely monitor weather services for updated forecasts regarding hurricane Florence. Conditions are developing very quickly.

All residents should be prepared with 5-7 days of supplies. (2 days leading up to storm and 3-5 days after the impact of the storm).

All residents should have vehicles fueled and prepared to evacuate in the event of emergency conditions. Bugout bags should be staged with the proper supplies for 3-5 days. Residents in flood prone areas should have multiple evacuation routes planned and be prepared to leave quickly should conditions warrant.

AmRRON members should begin preparations for hurricane conditions with consideration given to food, water, alternate power, first aid, and communications. Chain saws and tarps should be staged in the event of downed trees and damaged roofs. Any rechargeable equipment (flashlights, power packs, HT Radios, weather radios, etc.) should be charged in advance.

AmRRON members to begin persistent nets beginning Wednesday morning. All members should review the AmRRON SOI, ensure software is updated on computers, current forms are downloaded and equipment is in place and tested. Backup power should be put in place and tested in advance of the storm conditions.

### Introduction:

Tropical Storm Florence has strengthened to a category 3 hurricane as of 15:00 zulu on September 10<sup>th</sup>. As of late Monday morning, Florence was more than 1,200 miles east-southeast of Cape Fear, North Carolina, moving westward.

### Substantiation:

[2018-09-10-1500Z](https://weather.com/safety/hurricane/news/2018-09-10-hurricane-florence-forecast-us-east-coast) – weather.com: Florence Now a Major Category 3 Hurricane; Destructive Strike Likely on Southeast Coast <https://weather.com/safety/hurricane/news/2018-09-10-hurricane-florence-forecast-us-east-coast>

Hurricane Florence has rapidly intensified into a Category 3 major hurricane southeast of Bermuda and is likely to lash the East Coast later this week with life-threatening storm surge, destructive winds and massive inland rainfall flooding in one of the strongest strikes on this part of the East Coast on record.

If you're in the East Coast threat zone, the time is now to develop or firm up your hurricane preparedness plan and be ready to implement it if necessary. Residents in coastal areas should follow evacuation orders from local officials because of the potential for life-threatening storm surge flooding.



2018-09-10-1020Z – foxnews.com: Hurricane Florence barrels toward Carolinas, Mid-Atlantic states as residents prepare for surge

Government officials from the Carolinas to the Mid-Atlantic on Monday were preparing for a possible direct strike from Hurricane Florence later in the week, as the Category 2 storm continues to gain strength over the Atlantic, 625 miles southeast of Bermuda. The National Hurricane Center warned a hurricane hunter plane found the storm strengthening quickly. The Miami-based center said in its 5 a.m. ET advisory that Florence was moving west northwest at 9 mph. An increase in forward speed is expected over the next couple of days. Its maximum sustained winds are at 105 mph. Drawing energy from the warm water, the now Category 2 storm could be a fearsome Category 4 with winds of 130 mph or more by Tuesday. Florence is expected to remain an extremely dangerous major hurricane through Thursday. "Somebody is going to suffer devastating damage if this storms continues as it is currently forecast," Dan Miller, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Columbia, told The State newspaper. Officials warned that Florence could slow or stall on or near shore, with some forecasting models showing it could unload a foot or two of rain in places, causing devastating inland flooding. "Pretend, assume, presume that a major hurricane is going to hit right smack dab in the middle of South Carolina and is going to go way inshore," South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster said.

2018-09-10 – weather.com: Hurricane Florence Rapidly Intensifying, Likely to Strike East Coast With Life-Threatening Storm Surge, Destructive Winds, Major Rainfall Flooding  
<https://weather.com/safety/hurricane/news/2018-09-10-hurricane-florence-forecast-us-east-coast>

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- Florence is rapidly intensifying after regaining hurricane strength Sunday.
- A strike on the U.S. East Coast is now likely Thursday.
- Tropical storm force winds may arrive as soon as Wednesday night.
- Those in the path of Florence should have their hurricane plans ready to go.
- Massive inland rainfall flooding is also expected from Florence lingering into next week.
- Florence is also generating dangerous surf and rip currents along the East Coast.

2018-09-10 – \*10 SEPT 2018 RAISING TO AmCON LEVEL 3

In response to the increased danger from an expected impact of Hurricane Florence this week, we are raising the AmCON to Level-3 (Incident Probable).

At this time all AmRRON operators are to prepare for radio communications in anticipation of power and telecommunications failures in South Carolina, North Carolina, and the surrounding states.





2018-09-10 – weather.com: States of Emergency Declared

<https://weather.com/safety/hurricane/news/2018-09-10-hurricane-florence-preparations-southeast-coast-north-carolina>

As Hurricane Florence's threat to the Carolinas and Virginia became clearer, authorities and residents ramped up storm preparations Monday – including the first mandatory evacuations.

Along North Carolina's Outer Banks, all residents and visitors on Hatteras Island were ordered to evacuate starting at noon Monday, according to Dare County Emergency Management. The state's barrier islands are expected to see severe impacts from the hurricane.

### **Outlook:**

It is projected that Florence will hit the east coast as a category 4 hurricane along the NC and/or SC coast in the second half of the coming week. The storm is expected to stall near the coastline and provide heavy rainfall measured in feet over the weekend and into next week: “Massive inland rainfall flooding is also expected from Florence lingering into next week.”

Supplies such as batteries, gas, lanterns, candles, water, and basic foods will be depleted quickly as the storm approaches and makes landfall. All of these supplies should be collected immediately. Many residents will not be prepared for the coming conditions; normalcy bias will be prevalent.

Local rain in the Carolinas over the past weeks has already saturated the ground. This condition increases the chances of flooding and downed trees (resulting in road closures and power outages). Hotels will likely fill up quickly as residents are displaced.

*Note regarding State of Emergency:* Pursuant to the North Carolina Emergency Management Act, N.C.G.S. 166A-19.31(b)(4), local governments may impose restrictions on dangerous weapons such as explosives, incendiary devices, and radioactive materials and devices when a state of emergency is declared, but may not impose restrictions on lawfully possessed firearms or ammunition.

### **References:**

- 1) ExSum – PT AmRRON 2018-09-08-A Tropical Storm/Hurricane Conditions for NC in the Coming Week
- 2) AmRRON Communications Condition Level: <https://amrron.com/net-resourcestools/amcon-amrron-communications-condition-level/>
- 3) NWS: National Hurricane Preparedness: <https://www.weather.gov/wrn/hurricane-preparedness>