



# COUNTY OF LANCASTER

FOUNDED 1651 IN VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

LANCASTER COURTHOUSE  
8311 MARY BALL ROAD  
LANCASTER, VIRGINIA 22503

Don Gill  
Interim County Administrator

Stephen M. Smith  
Interim Chief

**804-462-5129**  
**804-462-0031 (FAX)**  
**www.lancova.com**

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 11, 2018  
12:00 am

LANCASTER (VA) - Lancaster County Emergency Services has been monitoring and making preparations for the impact of Hurricane Florence. Lancaster County declared a Local State of Emergency that went into effect on September 9, 2018, at 8:00 pm. The Governor of Virginia has indicated a mandatory evacuation to Zone A. These residents are those that are in low lying areas who are most likely to be impacted by coastal flooding and storm surge in addition to high winds and heavy rainfall. To Evacuate Zone A, you can stay with friends or family that are located further inland, outside of Zone A, or even outside of our community altogether. We encourage you to try to seek shelter with family or friends, as you will be more comfortable that way.

If you don't have a place to evacuate, we will be planning to open a public shelter at Lancaster Middle School on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 10:00 am. This shelter will also be able to accommodate family cats and dogs but no other pets. We encourage that people heed the evacuation order, and relocate from the area. Shall you choose to stay, during the event, emergency services may not be available. Emergency vehicles will be unable to respond through roads effected by high waters. Once the winds sustain a speed of 45 miles per hour or greater, all responses will be suspended until conditions improve.

We urge that you begin preparations for this event now. You can visit [readylancaster.org/hurricanes](http://readylancaster.org/hurricanes) for more details. We also recommend that you sign up for CodeRED Alerts, which can be located on the County's website. Please monitor our social media for critical updates, as well as other local media sources.

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