Sown of North Topsail Beach

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## Press Release

For Immediate Release Public Information Officer:

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Subject: Hurricane Dorian

Date: 09/03/2019 Time: 3:00 PM

At this time, the Town of North Topsail Beach continues to operate under a state of emergency. Governor Roy Cooper has issued a mandatory evacuation for barrier islands from the Virginia line to the South Carolina line, which includes North Topsail Beach. The order goes into effect at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

As you prepare to evacuate, here is a non-exhaustive list of factors to consider in your hurricane plan:

- If winds reach a sustained speed of 45 mph, the bridges will close. When the bridges close, you will not be able to leave the Island until after the storm passes.
- Are you already experiencing over wash? This will continue to increase.
- If conditions are deemed too dangerous, emergency personnel will suspend services. If you call 9-1-1, you may not receive help.
- Do you or someone you are caring for have particular medical or prescription needs? Purchase needed medication and medical supplies as soon as possible.
- Are you caring for children or elderly family members? Their ability to "ride out" a storm may be diminished.
- If you plan to stay, do you have food and water supplies?
- Have you made proper arrangements for your pets?
- Have you secured or made plans to secure outdoor objects (such as construction materials, trash pails, outdoor furniture, etc.) that could become hurricane debris?

Ultimately, we want you to make informed decisions. Consider these factors, along with any additional variables that are relevant to your circumstances, as you make plans for your family.

Need further guidance? Here are some resources to guide you:

- We encourage you to review your hurricane plan with your family (guidance can be found through this link <a href="https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes">https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes</a>).
- Continue to monitor Hurricane Dorian's progress through your preferred media outlets, such as The Weather Channel or NOAA.
- Follow the Town's <u>website</u> and <u>Facebook page</u>. If you are not registered for the Town's CodeRED system, you should do so by following this <u>link</u>.
- If you would like to track the media's reports that are specific to our town, enter the following phrase into your preferred search engine: "Hurricane Dorian" and "North Topsail Beach"

Lastly, are you worried about the reentry process? No need! Here is some simple guidance to help you navigate the reentry process should you need it:

- 1) Most likely, your current pass hasn't expired. Check the expiration date displayed on the sticker.
- 2) If you don't have a pass and are a full time resident, your state issued ID that lists your NTB address will suffice.
- 3) If you don't have a NTB address on your state ID, have documents ready to present that prove your NTB address (utility bills, lease agreement, etc.). One caveat: the name on the document must match your state ID.

Town hall issues reentry passes all year. As a policy, town hall does not issue passes the week of an extreme weather event. Staff's efforts are focused on other tasks. But the good news is that you can rely on this guidance to obtain reentry. It is the same documentation required at townhall to obtain a pass. In the event that you need to reenter North Topsail Beach and don't have a pass, have your documents ready to present to the police at their checkpoint. A reentry pass is only meant to help expedite the reentry process. The documentation is no different. The only consequence of not having a pass is a longer wait time in line.