

## Board of County Commissioners

C. Richard Weaver, President  
Dennis E. Frazier, Vice President  
Stephen A. Wantz, Secretary  
Doug Howard  
Richard S. Rothschild



## Carroll County Government

225 North Center Street  
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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MAY 7-13 IS MARYLAND HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

*Carroll County Asks Residents to Take Action Now to Prepare*

**Westminster, MD (May 8, 2017)** — This week is Maryland Hurricane Preparedness Week and Carroll County is teaming up with the National Weather Service (NWS) and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to promote citizen awareness and preparedness.

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June to November. The height of our season in Maryland typically is mid-August to October. Hurricanes can cause strong winds, heavy rain, inland flooding and other severe weather. Residents in Carroll County can “be weather ready” by ensuring that they know how to receive a warning, have a plan, and practice safety tips.

“Now is the time to start planning for hurricanes,” said Governor Larry Hogan. “Make sure you have an emergency plan, a disaster supply kit ready, and that your family, friends, and neighbors are prepared as well. If a storm is headed our way, the safest action is the simplest action - use common sense and stay safe.”

“It only takes one storm to have a significant impact on life and livelihood,” said Board of County Commissioners President Richard Weaver. “Find out now if you reside or work in a flood prone area and make plans for how you will react as well as evacuate should the need arise.”

“We all saw the destruction in North Carolina and other states to our south after Hurricane Matthew last summer,” said MEMA Executive Director Russ Strickland. “Just a slight change in the path of that storm and Maryland could have been in the bull’s eye. Don’t wait until a storm is headed our way to prepare.”

The NWS notes Maryland can see hurricanes and impacts from a storm hundreds of miles away. “Damage to coastlines and destruction several hundred miles in-land can be seen with these tropical storms,” said NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist Christopher Strong. “Hurricanes can produce 150-plus miles per hour winds, tornadoes and tremendous flooding from both tidal surges as well as torrential rain.”

The NWS and the Carroll County Department of Public Safety - Emergency Management work closely together and with local government agencies to identify and monitor hurricane activity, develop preparedness plans and safety information and coordinate the response to these storms.

Residents can also take the following actions to remain safe:

- Build an emergency supply kit and develop a family emergency and communications plan.

## CARROLL COUNTY

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.

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- Stay tuned to trusted sources such as the National Weather Service and local broadcasters for official weather information.
- During severe weather, stay indoors away from windows, close all interior doors, and brace external doors.
- Monitor NWS flood warnings for your area and be prepared to seek higher ground. Flooding is often our biggest threat.
- If you live in a mobile home, plan to leave if high winds are a threat as they are unsafe in high winds.
- Fill a bathtub or other large container with water for sanitary purposes such as cleaning and flushing toilets.
- Charge devices before bad weather hits and consider keeping a charger in your car.
- Download the Prepare Me Carroll mobile app onto your smartphone or tablet. It is available free of charge from the iPhone and Google Play (Android) app stores.

In support of Hurricane Preparedness Week, the U.S. Air Force and NOAA Hurricane Hunters and pilots will be visiting our region at Reagan National Airport on Tuesday May 9<sup>th</sup>. More information on this event can be found here: <http://www.weather.gov/baltimore/2017HATOoverview>

For more information please visit the Carroll County Department of Public Safety on the [web](#), [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

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