

June 16th, 2026

2026 HURRICANE SEASON OUTLOOK AND PREPAREDNESS



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Agenda

1. Hurricane Season Outlook
2. Annual Preparedness Update
3. Lessons Learned from Tropical Storm Chantal
4. Emergency Planning and Readiness Improvements

OUTLOOK FOR 2026

- Hurricane Season June 1 - November 20th
- Predicted to be a less active season
 - 55% Chance of Below Average Activity
 - 35% Chance Near-Average Activity
 - 10% Chance Above-Average Activity
- This means we expect:
 - 8-14 Named Storms
 - 3-6 Hurricanes
 - 1-3 Major Hurricanes



Chantal: What We Experienced

Chantal was the largest emergency management and recovery operation in recent Town history.

- Town-wide EOC activation
- Significant flooding and infrastructure impacts
- Extensive debris removal operations
- Damage to Town facilities, fleet, and equipment
- FEMA Public Assistance (recovery efforts ongoing)
- Regional coordination across multiple agencies



Chantal: Key Lessons Learned

What Worked

- Regional coordination
- EOC operations
- Public Works response
- Public information sharing

What We Improved

- Information management
- Recovery documentation
- Flood monitoring
- Planning and training
- EOC staffing capacity

EOP Updates

- Countywide Comprehensive EOP Update
 - Shared operational framework
 - Clear coordination responsibilities
 - Improved interoperability
- Carrboro EOP Update
 - Updated activation levels
 - Defined departmental responsibilities
 - Improved documentation process
 - Integration with County plan



Town of Carrboro

Emergency Operations Plan

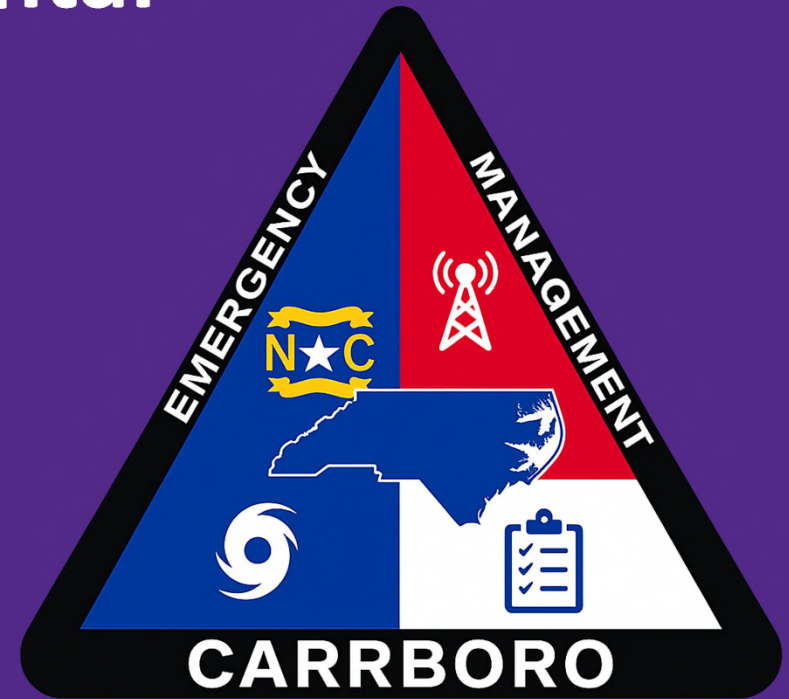


May 2026



Preparedness Since Chantal

- Emergency Management Planner position added
- Improved evacuation messaging
- Enhanced EOC planning capability
- FEMA recovery process improvements
- Hazard Mitigation Plan adoption
- Stream gauge and flood monitoring initiatives
- Improved regional coordination
- Additional training and exercises



Evacuation Messaging

- **Ready, Set, Go**
- New Phased Evacuation Messaging Protocol
- Adopted in Partnership with Orange County, Chapel Hill, and Hillsborough
- Offered in Top 5 Community Languages
 - Ready
 - Forecast information predicts potentially dangerous conditions
 - Set
 - Conditions indicate a high likelihood of flooding in downstream homes
 - Go
 - Conditions indicate immediate danger to life safety



Know what to do in an emergency!

GET READY!



- Check local news
- Review your plan and gather supplies
- Tell neighbors
- Help others

GET SET!



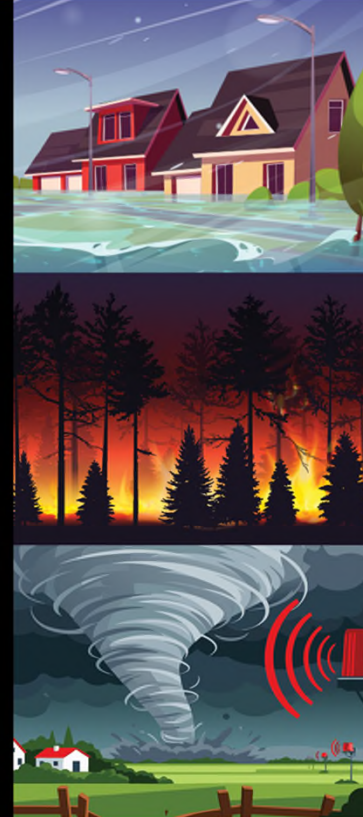
- Have your emergency kit ready
- Know your plan and meeting place
- Be ready to leave

GO!



- Leave now
- Check media for information

Sign up for OC Alerts at orangecountync.gov/OCAlerts



Learn more about how to prepare and what to do in an emergency at readyorange.org.



What to Expect This Hurricane Season

If Significant Weather Threatens

- Enhanced monitoring
- EOC activation as needed
- Regular Council briefings
- Public information updates
- Regional coordination
- Damage assessment and recovery planning



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Hurricane Season Preparedness

- Residents can prepare themselves by:
 - Preparing a Go-Bag
 - Registering for OC Alerts
 - Following the Town of Carrboro and Orange County on Social Media
 - Staying up-to-date on weather forecasts
 - Visit [readyorange.org](https://www.readyorange.org) for more preparedness information



Sign Up for OC Alerts

Closing

Preparedness Is a Year-Round Effort

Key Takeaways

- Forecasts suggest below-average activity, but risk remains.
- Lessons from Chantal have driven meaningful improvements.
- County and Town emergency plans have been updated.
- Investments in preparedness and mitigation continue.
- Carrboro is better positioned for the next major event.



QUESTIONS?