

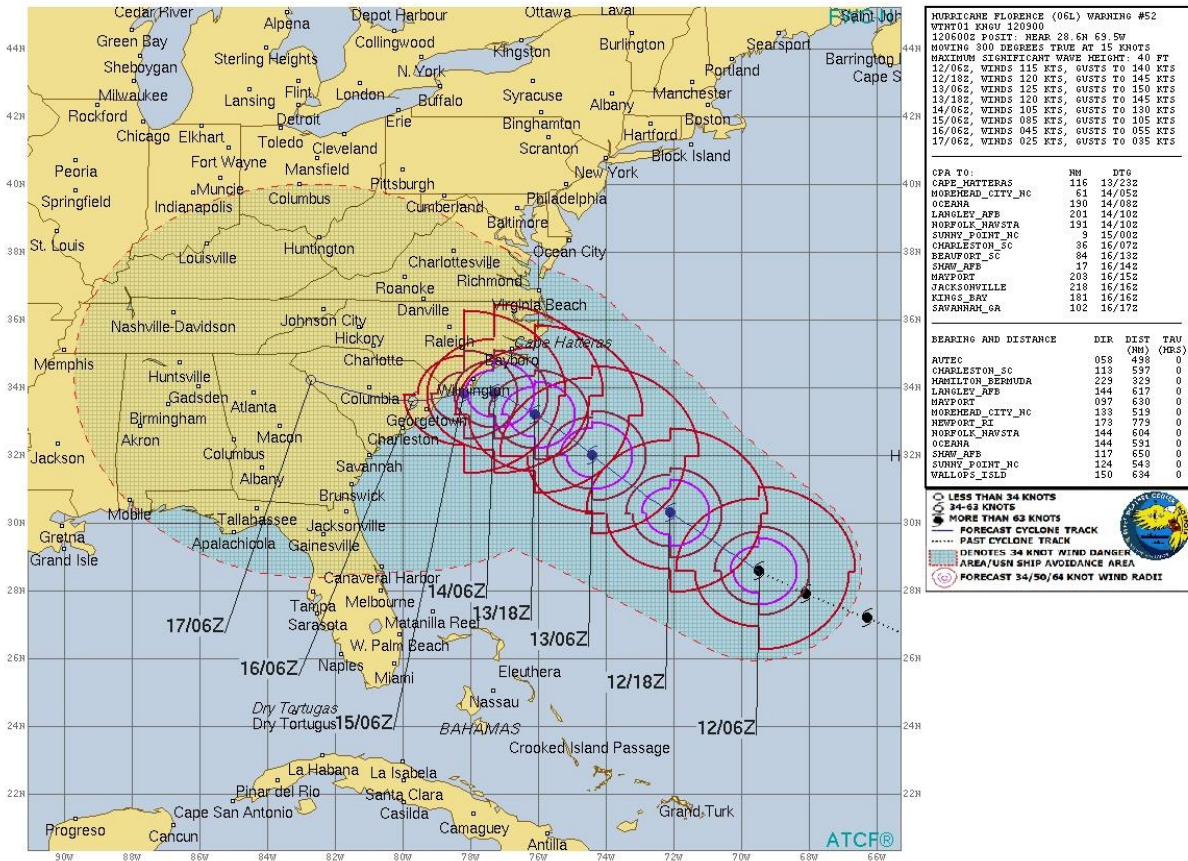


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Pat Dowling, Public Information Officer (843) 280-5612 – office / (843)241-7480 – cell [pcdowling@nmb.us](mailto:pcdowling@nmb.us)

**PLEASE LEAVE**

North Myrtle Beach, SC – September 12, 2018 – That's the word from the city of North Myrtle Beach today, as major hurricane Florence is forecast to drift closer to the SC/NC line and move over North Myrtle Beach and all of Horry County over several days.



Forecast impacts include major storm surge, huge amounts of rain, and high sustained winds for up to 30 hours.

Currently, the forecast track has the storm coming ashore at the SC/NC line as a Category 3 or 4 hurricane, perhaps make landfall late Thursday and into early Friday, and then lingering through mid-day Sunday over North Myrtle Beach and Horry County as it drifts without much in the way of steering currents.

As currently forecast, the large storm surge and very high winds pose immediate concerns for oceanfront structures when this storm arrives, and the huge amount of rainfall currently associated with this event poses an immediate concern for all in North Myrtle Beach and Horry County.

**THE NORTH MYRTLE BEACH EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC) IS NOW AT OPCON 1**, which means 24/7 staffing.

**THESE NORTH MYRTLE BEACH EOC PUBLIC INFORMATION LINES ARE NOW OPEN** for Non-Emergency questions/needs:

843-280-5511 (Dispatch - Non-Emergency Line)

843-280-5531 (EOC- Non-Emergency Public Line)

843-281-3769 (EOC- Non-Emergency Public Line)

**REMEMBER** -- when winds reach 40 mph, fire trucks and other emergency vehicles normally do not travel. Do not create an emergency situation for yourself. Please leave.

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