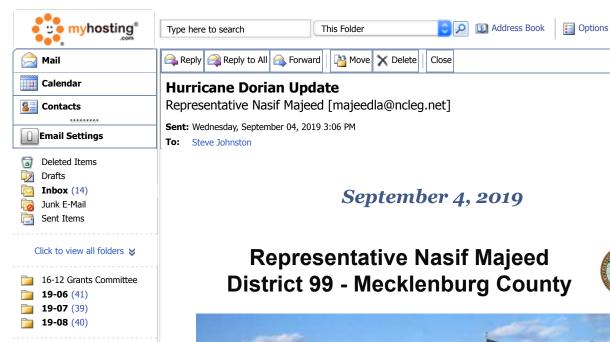
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As Hurricane Dorian reaches North Carolina we can expect higher winds in Charlotte

Peace. Hurricane Dorian is expected to deliver 30 to 40 mph gusts to Charlotte on tomorrow. Gusts above 40 mph could hit counties to the east and southeast of Mecklenburg, including Union, Anson and Stanly counties in North Carolina and Chesterfield, South Carolina, according to National Weather Service forecasters.

Charlotte Douglas International Airport could see gusts as high as 29 mph during the day tomorrow and up to 30 mph tomorrow night, also according to the latest NWS forecast at 12:52 p.m. this afternoon.

Friday should be mostly sunny in Charlotte, with an expected high of 89 and gusts diminishing to as high as 20 mph, NWS forecasters said.

Also by 1:15 p.m. today, <u>81 flights were canceled and 39 delayed</u> at Charlotte Douglas International Airport. Many of the cancellations and delays involved flights to and from airports along coastal South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, according to FlightAware.com.

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If your air travel plans put you anywhere near the path of Hurricane Dorian, make sure you check your flight's status with your airline before you leave for the airport. Many airlines have cancelled flights.

Today, NC Department of Transportation officials announced that stateoperated Piedmont and Carolinian trains are still running on normal schedules between Charlotte and Raleigh, as are Amtrak's Crescent Trains 19 and 20.

These trains operating through North Carolina have been canceled, officials said:

On Wednesday:

Palmetto (Trains 89, 90) – New York to Savannah. Silver Star (Trains 91, 92/1092) – New York to Miami. Silver Meteor (Trains 97, 98) – New York to Miami.

On Thursday and Friday, these trains likely will be canceled, state officials said: Palmetto (Trains 89, 90).
Silver Star (Trains 91, 92/1092).
Silver Meteor (Trains 97, 98).
Correspondent Steve Lyttle contributed.

Prepare your home, be wary of roofing scams as Hurricane Dorian approaches the East Coast

North Carolina Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey is encouraging North Carolinians to prepare their homes and belongings for any natural disaster or emergency that could occur as we approach the official peak of the Atlantic hurricane season September 10th.

Hurricane Dorian and Tropical Depression Erin are currently churning in the Atlantic. Erin is expected to bypass the eastern U.S. as it heads toward Canada, but the path of Dorian is still uncertain.

Commissioner Causey also warns residents that the days after a storm hits are the times when roofing scams often occur. Since July 2018, the Department's Criminal Investigations Division received 112 complaints regarding potential fraudulent roofers. Several of them took the resident's insurance money and promised roofing services they never delivered.

Before acting on a contractor's offer for services, Commissioner Causey asks residents to heed the following advice to avoid becoming a victim:

- Beware of contractor or roofing representatives going door-to-door after a disaster.
- Call your insurance agent or insurance company before signing a contract or paying for repairs. Don't let the contractor work directly with your insurance company unless your agent gives approval.
- Work with only licensed and insured contractors.
- Get more than one estimate. Don't be pushed into signing a contract right away.

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- Get everything in writing. The cost and the type of work to be done, time schedule, guarantees, payment schedule and other expectations should be detailed.
- Require references and check them out.
- Ask to see the salesperson's driver's license. Write down the license number. Also take down his or her license plate number.
- Never sign a contract with blanks. Fraudulent contractors may enter unacceptable terms later.
- Never pay a contractor in full or sign a completion certificate until the work is completed.

To help residents prepare for the onslaught of inclement weather that often accompanies hurricane season, please understand the following information.

- Make sure you have adequate insurance coverage. Know exactly what your insurance policy covers. Homeowners' policies do not cover flooding. You can only purchase flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program. However, there is typically a 30-day waiting period before flood policies take effect so don't wait until a storm is approaching to purchase coverage. If you live in a rental property, your landlord's insurance only covers the building. None of your personal belongings are insured unless you purchase your own renters' policy.
- Compile important documents. Gather important paperwork, including insurance policies, medical records, and prescriptions. Be prepared to bring copies with you if you are forced to evacuate your home.
- Create a home inventory. Go room to room in your home and write down
 the brand name, description, estimated value and date of purchase of
 items in your home. It is also helpful to compile receipts, appraisal
 documents and serial numbers. Take videos or photographs of your
 belongings. Store your home inventory and related documents in a safe,
 easily-accessible place online, on your smartphone, on your computer or
 in a fire-proof box or safe deposit box.
- Identify potential hazards around your home. Hanging tree branches, loose shingles, patio furniture and other outdoor objects can cause damage or injuries in a storm. Make repairs or secure large objects to reduce the threat.
- Review contact information. Make sure you have up-to-date contact information for your insurance agent and insurance company and make sure they have accurate contact information to reach you.

After the Storm

The storm has hit and the power is out. Now what?

 Operate portable generators outside and away from doors and windows and direct the generator's exhaust away from the home and any other buildings. The CDC recommends placing the portable generator at least 20 feet away from the house.

- Never operate a portable generator inside a home, garage, basement, crawlspace, shed, or on the porch. Opening doors or windows will not provide enough ventilation to prevent the buildup of lethal levels of CO.
- Never ignore a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm when it rings. Get outside immediately. Call 911.
- Get to fresh air immediately if you start to feel sick, weak or dizzy, and then call 911. CO poisoning from portable generators can happen so quickly that exposed persons may become unconscious instead of experiencing these symptoms.

If you have any concerns with your insurance needs, call the Department of Insurance at 855-408-1212 or visit us online at ncdoi.com. To report suspected roofing or contractor fraud, contact the N.C. Department of Insurance Criminal Investigations Division at 919-807-6840.



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Have a great weekend, PEACE!

Mary

View inside House Chambers



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