



George County Board of Supervisors  
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## GC storm shelters now **OPEN** in advance of Hurricane Nate

Nate Release #3: Oct. 7, 2017

- George County's storm shelters are now open (Sat. Oct. 7) for all residents. Each shelter is being staffed by American Red Cross and MS Department of Human Services personnel. No pets are allowed inside of shelters. Locations are:
  - **Benndale Storm Shelter (5207 Hwy. 26 W)**
  - **Agricola Storm Shelter (3161 Cooks Corner Road)**
- GC Emergency Management has these 5 tips for residents planning to use the County's shelters:
  1. **Bring your own food-** Residents need to bring nonperishable food to the shelter such as bread, peanut butter, tuna fish, and crackers. Residents can also bring items in a small personal ice chest and eating utensils (cups, plates, fork/spoons)
  2. **Bring your own sleeping gear-** Residents need to bring sleeping gear to the shelter such as sleeping bags, pillows, and blankets.
  3. **Bring your medication-** Residents need to bring enough prescription medication for several days along with any over-the-counter medication which is part of their daily routine such as cough syrup, antacids, or aspirin.
  4. **Bring items for your baby-** Residents need to bring diapers, powder, wipes, baby food, and a change of clothes.
  5. **Bring your own personal items-** Residents need to bring personal hygiene items such as a change of clothes, eyeglasses, hair brush/comb, and a toothbrush.
- The National Weather Service forecasts strong tropical storm force winds and driving rain will begin later tonight. Models indicate the storm could drop 5 to 8 inches of rain in our area over the weekend. George County remains under a Hurricane Warning and Flash Flood Watch.
- GC Emergency Management Director Nancy Smith cautions residents their "safe window" for outdoor storm preparations is closing. Officials remind all residents to think about their personal safety while making storm preparations.
- Drivers need to be aware road conditions will be changing throughout the next 24 hours. Tropical storm conditions can produce standing water and large debris on road ways.
- George County Community Medical Center and Urgent Care will be closed on Sunday, Oct. 8 due to threat of severe weather.

- The Lucedale Walmart will be closed until at least 10 am on Sunday, Oct. 7, 2017
- County supervisors have pre-positioned road equipment across their beats to better respond to possible road closures. Sheriff's Department has placed all staff members on "stand-by" and is coordinating with the Sheriff's Reserve, if needed.
- The County's EOC is now activated for the duration of severe weather.
- The George County Board of Supervisors approved a "Declaration of Local Emergency" on Friday, Oct. 6, 2017 to allow County personnel to make storm preparations.
- George County employees should plan to be at work Monday for their regular shifts.

For the most updated weather information and alerts follow George County's EMA Facebook page at *Facebook/GeorgeCountyMsEmergencyManagement*. All official County announcements and news releases will come from the County's Emergency Management Office and/or Public Information Office.

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