



**Hyde County, NC**

**Press Release: July 31, 2020 8:00am**

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The Hyde County Board of Commissioners met this morning, July 31, 2020, at 8:00am to enact a State of Emergency in advance of Hurricane Isaias that will go into effect today, July 31, 2020, at 8:00am. Ocracoke entry will be restricted immediately. Only residents, homeowners, vendors, and other essential personnel requested by Federal, State or County officials will be allowed access until further notice. You will need an Ocracoke re-entry pass on the vehicle or adequate documentation to be allowed on ferries inbound to Ocracoke beginning at 8:00 am today, July 31, 2020.

The Ocracoke Control Group will meet again this morning, July 31, 2020, to discuss any future protective measures needed. Decisions on evacuation orders will be released shortly after the completion of this meeting.

Individuals should remain vigilant and review their household hurricane and evacuation plans to ensure they are prepared to take action if necessary. If you do not have a hurricane plan, you can visit <https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan> for step-by-step for guidance on how to plan and prepare for them. It is strongly recommended that all Hyde County residents and property owners have their preparations completed as soon as possible.

Even though Hurricane Isaias is at least a couple of days away from directly impacting our area, an enhanced risk of dangerous rip currents will exist this weekend. Also, large swells from Hurricane Isaias will begin impacting the Eastern North Carolina coast over the weekend. Ocracoke beach goers should monitor the US National Weather Service Newport/Morehead City forecast and be mindful of the conditions when deciding to enter the water.

The Hyde County Emergency Services Department will continue to monitor the forecast for Hurricane Isaias and issue advisories as appropriate. For the most current and official information please monitor the National Hurricane Center website at <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>.