



EDECOMBE COUNTY PRESS RELEASE

Experiencing Flooding in Low-lying areas; Tar River Expected to Crest Near Major Flood Stage Friday

Tarboro, NC - April 26, 2017: Due to recent heavy rains, and the flooding some areas are experiencing today, Edgecombe County has declared a State of Emergency. Several roads are now impassable and some areas on Bynum Farm Road, just outside of the Town of Pinetops, have been evacuated. The Tar River continues to rise, but has not yet reached its peak here in Edgecombe County. As of the time of the press release, the National Weather Service reports the river is expected to crest at approximately 10 p.m. Friday evening, April 28th at 31.7 feet at the Tarboro "Town Bridge" river gauge. Major flood stage at this location is 32 feet. In comparison, the river reached 36.2 feet after Hurricane Matthew last October and 41.5 feet after Hurricane Floyd in 1999.

An Emergency Shelter is now open at 500 Davis Street in Tarboro. Locally it is known as the "Old Tarboro Edgecombe Academy". The shelter will remain open until further notice.

As of this press release, the following state roads are closed:

- NC 111, Near Pinetops
- NC 122, Near Pinetops
- Temperance Hall Road, East of Pinetops
- Faith Baptist Church Road, Northwest of Pinetops
- Bynum Farm Road, Near Pinetops
- Leggett Road, East of Rocky Mount
- Spring Field Road, East of Rocky Mount
- Cox Avenue, East of Rocky Mount
- Gay Road, East of Rocky Mount

As waterways continue to both rise and lower in different areas, road conditions are subject to change. For regular updates on road closings, go to <https://tims.ncdot.gov/tims/>. Please remember to not drive through standing water. "Turn around, don't drown!"

Because the river is expected to rise close to major flood stage, Edgecombe County officials are asking all property owners to monitor the situation closely and to make necessary provisions for possible flooding, especially those in areas recently impacted by Hurricane Matthew. Flood projections may change, so residents in low-lying areas should remain on alert.

Any major updates will be posted on the county's website at www.edgecombecountync.gov and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/edgecombecountync as well as through every available media outlet. You may also call our Emergency Operations Center line at (252) 824-0108.

Media Contact: William Johnson, Assistant County Manager (252) 641-4742 – wjohnson@edgecombeco.com