



State of New Hampshire Department of Safety

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saturday, August 21, 2021
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PRESS RELEASE

HENRI STRENGTHENS TO CATEGORY 1 HURRICANE

State Emergency Operations Center to Open on Sunday

CONCORD, N.H. – The National Weather Service’s National Hurricane Center advises that Henri has strengthened to a Category 1 Hurricane.

The New Hampshire Department of Safety Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management urges all residents and visitors to prepare for heavy winds and possible flooding from Hurricane Henri.

The latest forecast predicts that Hurricane Henri will make landfall in southern New England tomorrow and weaken to a Tropical Storm before reaching New Hampshire and bringing heavy rainfall. This rainfall includes potential for flash floods from Sunday to Tuesday morning, especially in the White Mountains and south. Flash flooding is flooding that begins within 6 hours but often within 3 hours of heavy rain. Flash floods are the most dangerous kind of floods because they occur so quickly and their potential impact is largely unknown.

Southern New Hampshire could see wind gusts up to 35 mph with the possibility for higher winds in the Monadnock region.

“We are taking this storm seriously and you should, too,” said state Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Jennifer Harper. “People need to monitor changing local weather conditions and know what to do if an emergency occurs. Sign up for NH Alerts or download the free NH Alerts mobile app for your mobile devices to receive important updates and weather alerts from the National Weather Service. View preparedness information at ReadyNH.gov and always heed instructions from local safety officials.”

The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) will activate to a Partial Level on Sunday at noon to monitor the storm and support local communities.

Director Harper offers the following safety tips as you prepare for Hurricane Henri:

- Make sure your emergency kit is well stocked with at least three days’ worth of necessary items including food, water, medicine and clothing for all of your family members. Don’t forget your pets.

Office: 110 Smokey Bear Boulevard, Concord, N.H.
Mailing Address: 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, N.H. 03305
603-271-2231, 1-800-852-3792, Fax 603-223-3609
State of New Hampshire TDD Access: Relay 1-800-735-2964

- Continue to monitor storm updates from the National Weather Service and local radio and television stations.
- Prepare your home: make sure rain gutters are clear, secure loose outdoor items, move vehicles to a safe location, trim trees that may fall and cause damage, and prepare your generator in case you lose power.
- Never use generators inside homes, garages, sheds or crawlspaces. Set up your generator at least 10 feet away from your home with the exhaust facing away.
- Know your evacuation route should you be instructed by local safety officials to evacuate.
- Hikers and campers should seek shelter indoors and heed instructions from local officials.
- Rip currents can be stronger both before and after a storm. Avoid beach activities until weather conditions improve.
- Only call 9-1-1 to report emergencies.

These core steps are key to preparedness and keeping you and your family safe:

1. Stay informed - Sign up for NH Alerts or download the NH Alerts mobile app to receive free emergency notifications including weather alerts from the National Weather Service.
2. Have a family emergency plan.
3. Make an emergency kit with supplies for your entire family including your pets.
4. Get involved in your community.

Learn more about preparedness at [ReadyNH.gov](https://www.ReadyNH.gov).

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