

## **State of New Hampshire Department of Safety**

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## Homeland Security and Emergency Management

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, August 23, 2021 Vanessa Palange Community Outreach Communicator C: (603) 545-9499

## HENRI SERVES AS 'GOOD TEST' FOR HURRICANE SEASON PREPAREDNESS

State Emergency Operations Center to Close Tonight

CONCORD, N.H. – As Tropical Depression Henri winds down, the New Hampshire Department of Safety Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management reminds residents and visitors of the continued importance of preparedness.

The latest forecast predicts heavy rains in the Southwestern part of New Hampshire on Monday from about 2:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. A Flood Watch remains in effect for parts of Hillsborough, Merrimack, Cheshire and Sullivan counties through late Monday night.

The State Emergency Operations Center will close at 10:00 P.M.

"Henri provided a good test for hurricane season and proved just how quickly conditions and forecasts can change," said New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Jennifer Harper. "We were fortunate to only see some limited short-term power outages. This storm gave residents and visitors a chance to take a look at their emergency plans and kits and make the updates they needed. With Hurricane season not ending until November, we still have a lot of time left and need to be prepared."

The 2021 Atlantic hurricane season officially began on June 1 and runs through November 30.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) seasonal outlook predicts an above normal number of hurricanes this season. NOAA's Climate Prediction Center is forecasting a likely range of 15 to 21 named storms, of which seven to 10 could become hurricanes, including three to five major hurricanes. An average hurricane season produces 12 named storms, of which six become hurricanes, including three major hurricanes.

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.

Know what to do and have the things you need to stay safe. Learn about preparedness, including signing up for NH Alerts, having a plan and making an emergency kit at ReadyNH.gov.

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