



FORSYTHCOUNTY
Department of Communications
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FORSYTH COUNTY RESIDENTS SHOULD BE PREPARED
FOR HURRICANE SEASON**

Hurricanes, tropical storms can impact inland regions

FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia – Forsyth County might not be considered a coastal area, but the Forsyth County Fire Department and Emergency Management Agency (EMA) remind residents to take steps toward preparedness during the 2011 hurricane season.

“Hurricanes can still affect inland areas and Forsyth County is no exception,” Fire Chief and EMA Director Danny Bowman said. “When hurricanes move inland, they can spawn tornadoes and high winds while bringing the possibility of flooding. It is important for residents to be prepared for these types of emergency situations.”

According to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency Web site, the Atlantic hurricane season begins June 1 and ends November 30. However, hurricanes can develop at any time. The entire state of Georgia is vulnerable to inland flooding, particularly north Georgia communities like Forsyth County that are at a higher elevation and prone to deadly flash floods.

A NOAA Weather Radio is suggested to help provide advance warning of potential dangerous weather.

“It is highly recommended residents have a NOAA Weather Radio to advise them of an incoming major storm,” Bowman said. “Simple steps toward preparedness can make a difference in an emergency situation, including a hurricane.”

In the event Forsyth County is placed under a tornado warning, the county’s outdoor severe weather sirens will be activated. The sirens are designed to alert citizens who are

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outdoors that severe weather is in the area.

For more information on how to stay prepared during the hurricane season, visit the Georgia Emergency Management Web site at www.gema.ga.gov.

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