

Tropical Storm Isaias: Update #3

Sunday August 2, 2020

3:00 PM

Tropical Storm Isaias is tracking northward and is expected to arrive/impact North Carolina on Monday August 3 and Tuesday August 4, 2020.

High winds, heavy rainfall, and potential tornados could impact our coastal region.

The Town of Emerald Isle is preparing now. All town staff and first responders are on storm ready alert.

Dangerous ocean conditions exist NOW and will continue to bring HIGH RISK for RIP currents. Emerald Isle is under RED FLAG conditions and the public is asked to stay out of the water.

Hurricanes and Tropical Storms are very unpredictable. Carteret County Emergency Services and the Town of Emerald Isle are actively monitoring the storm. If conditions worsen, the Town of Emerald Isle will take swift action and communicate with the public.

For the latest video update from the National Weather Service, follow this link:

[Sunday Morning Video Update \(Short\)](#)

YARD DEBRIS COLLECTION SUSPENDED

Until further notice, yard debris collection is suspended. Residents are asked to STOP placing loose material at the roadway. Following the storm, collection services will resume.

TRASH COLLECTION

Regular ocean side trash service will be provided on Monday August 3, 2020.

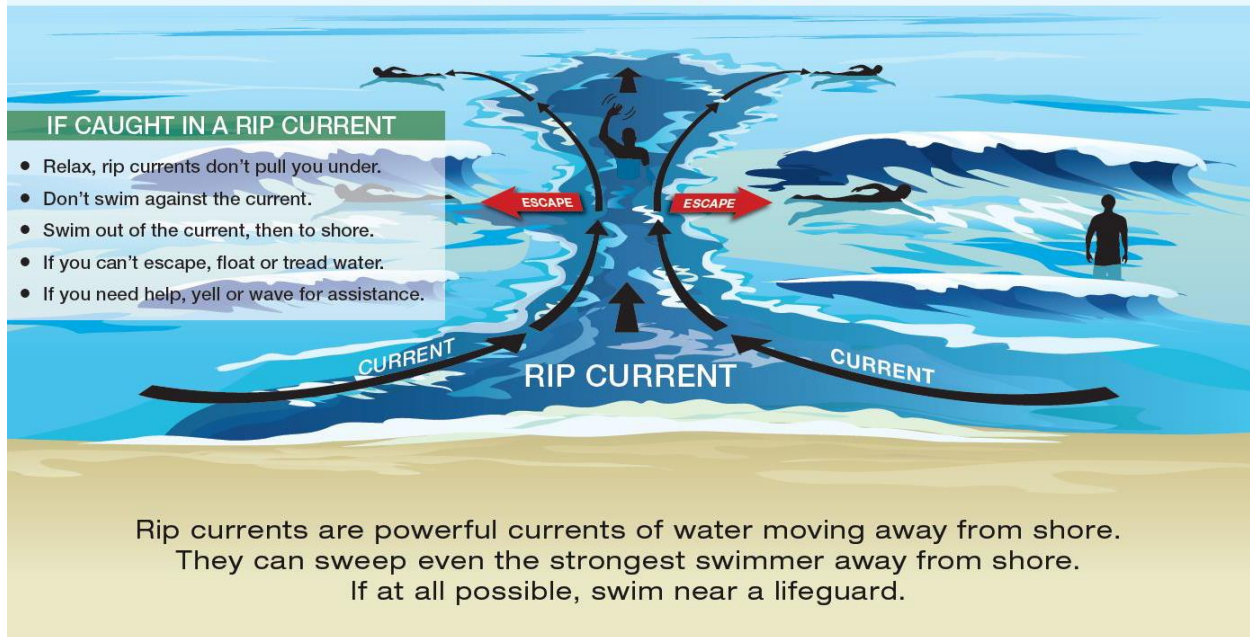
Staff is monitoring the weather and will make adjustments to the trash/recycling collections (as needed) for Tuesday and Wednesday. Any changes to service will be announced ASAP.

OCEAN CONDITIONS/ RIP CURRENTS

Dangerous ocean conditions exist NOW and will continue to bring HIGH RISK for RIP currents. Emerald Isle is under RED FLAG conditions and the public is asked to stay out of the water. The threat for stronger and more frequent rip currents will continue for area beaches through the middle of the next week, leading to extremely dangerous conditions for swimming.

RIP CURRENTS

KNOW YOUR OPTIONS



COMMUNICATION PLAN

Public messaging is expected to continue throughout the duration of the event. For the most up-to-date information, please monitor www.emeraldisle-nc.org, follow us on Facebook, Twitter and download the Emerald Isle app.

SITUATIONAL UPDATE

Tropical Storm Isaias, currently located within 50 miles of the east coast of Florida, is forecast to maintain its intensity and lift northeastward toward the Carolina coast Monday night and Tuesday, passing through the Coastal Plain of Eastern North Carolina.

Tropical storm force winds are possible across the area. This could lead to some downed trees and widely scattered power outages. A few tornadoes are possible Monday night and Tuesday, which could lead to locally enhanced damage.

Minor to locally moderate inundation from storm surge is possible for low lying area adjacent to the ocean, sounds and rivers, with overwash of dunes and flooding of properties and roadways possible for locations where dune structures are weak. Impacts at specific locations will be highly track dependent.

Dangerous marine conditions are also expected, with seas building to 8 to 16 feet creating treacherous conditions for mariners.

Periods of locally heavy rain are likely especially along and west of Highway 17, with the potential for localized minor flooding of low lying areas. River levels could reach and exceed flood stage a couple days after Isaias exits the Carolinas. Widespread flooding is not expected.

STATE OF EMERGENCY

Effective at 3:00 PM on Saturday August 1, 2020, the Town of Emerald Isle issued a State of Emergency declaration. The approaching storm is anticipated to impact our local area. Residents, guests, and businesses should begin preparations now.

EVACUATION ORDERS

As of 3:00 PM on Saturday August 1, 2020, current predictions have NOT triggered an evacuation order.

GENERAL PREPAREDNESS

Residents and guests should anticipate high winds, heavy rains, and the potential loss of power due to the storm. Residents and guests should be prepared to shelter in place with sufficient food, water and medical supplies.

STORMWATER PREPARATION

The Town of Emerald Isle's stormwater system is operational and clear of debris. Staff has inspected all storm drain inlets, pumps, ditches, and associated infrastructure. In advance of the storm, emergency fuel, generators, and mobile pumps are staged on the island. These items will be utilized (as needed) in flood prone areas.

ACTION STEPS

We encourage you to stay off the roads during heavy rains. If you intend to leave island, do not wait until the storm arrives. Plan ahead and leave early.

Additionally, follow these tips to reduce property damage and stay safe:

- Bring in garbage cans, lawn furniture, bikes, toys, hanging plants and lawn decorations. If possible, remove the swings on your child's swing set to prevent unnecessary damage.
- Move furnishings and valuables to the highest point in your house.
- Keep a supply of flashlights and extra batteries handy in case of loss of power. Avoid open flames, such as candles and kerosene lamps, as a source of light.
- If you lose power, turn off all major appliances to avoid a power surge when the power is turned back on.
- Do not drive or walk through standing water. Water can be deeper than it appears, and two feet of water can sweep away most cars and six inches of moving water can sweep you away when walking.

