



Contact: Riley Eversull  
Communications Specialist  
[Riley\\_Eversull@onslowcountync.gov](mailto:Riley_Eversull@onslowcountync.gov)  
910-989-3192

**For Immediate Release**  
**October 7, 2016**

### **Onslow County Government Anticipates Issuance of State of Emergency**

**(12PM) UPDATE:** Due to recent changes in Hurricane Matthew, Onslow County Government will now activate **FOUR** storm shelters:

- Dixon High School – special needs shelter, pet-friendly
- Jacksonville Commons Middle School – special needs shelter, pet-friendly
- Richlands High School
- Swansboro High School

All storm shelters will open Saturday (10/8) at 7 a.m. and remain open as needed.

#### PREVIOUS RELEASE:

ONslow COUNTY, NC— The Onslow County Board of Commissioners has called an Emergency Meeting today at 1 p.m. at the Onslow County Government Center in response to Hurricane Matthew. Due to the potential for dangerous weather conditions, a “State of Emergency” declaration is anticipated.

The latest predictions from the National Weather Service project significant rainfall amounts throughout Onslow County. Onslow County Government will open a primary emergency shelter Saturday morning (10/8) at 7 a.m. at Dixon High School. The shelter can accommodate special needs individuals. Those planning to gather at the shelter should ensure they have adequate prescription medications, bedding, clothes and comfort items for children. The DHS shelter will also be pet-friendly. Those bringing pets must have their animal crated at all times. Remember to pack pet food, vet records and animal ID tags.

The Onslow County Citizens Phone Bank will be open Friday (10/7) from 12 p.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturday (10/8) from 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Citizens with questions regarding the weather event may call **(910) 989-5027**. Anyone with an emergency should call **911**.

Due to severe weather conditions, all Onslow County Public Library locations, Onslow County Parks & Recreation facilities (including beach accesses) and the Onslow County Museum will be CLOSED Saturday (10/8) and Sunday (10/9).

Albert J. Ellis Airport (OAJ) will be open, but airport officials recommend travelers call their airline or check the airline’s website to track any flight changes. OAJ does not control airline flight changes.

Please be alert for future press releases and monitor Onslow County resources for updates:  
[www.onslowcountync.gov](http://www.onslowcountync.gov)  
[www.facebook.com/government1](http://www.facebook.com/government1)  
@Onslow PIO

###