

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, September 6, 2026.

Good afternoon. Temperatures were cooler today with high temperatures reaching the 80s. National Weather Service promises these cooler temperatures will last through mid-week. Primarily dry conditions last through mid-week.

Dare's 14 Flock cameras coming down. On Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2026, Dare County commissioners unanimously voted to remove 14 Flock Safety cameras deployed in unincorporated parts of the county.

During public comment, 14 citizens spoke against the Flock cameras, calling them a dragnet.

Speakers voiced concerns about surveillance.

"I didn't sign up to be watched," said Kathryn Fagan. "I don't feel safe with them." She continued: "it's just creepy to be constantly stalked by your government."

At the close of public comment, the meeting agenda was changed to permit the Dare County Sheriff's presentation, which was followed by discussion among the commissioners.

Dare County Sheriff Doug Doughtie briefed the crowd and commissioners on the cameras and their uses.

Cameras take still shots of vehicles/license plates that pass by a window of view.

No video recordings are capable with the county's cameras.

Cameras are not capable of facial recognition.

Data Retention Period: 30 days.

Total users: 70. Of those, 29 officers have search capacity. To search all 29 officers must have a case number and offence type to search.

Use is by rank. Patrol and Telecommunications can log on to observe alerts from Hotlists but are required to verify validity of alert prior to enforcement action.

Investigators and patrol supervisors can search camera system to locate missing or endangered persons, conduct investigations and make arrests.

The administrator reviews system audits monthly and controls who has access to which cameras.

Hotlists are the National Criminal Information Center (NCIC) and National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

From August 1 to August 28, NCIC forwarded the following alerts to Dare County: stolen license plates 36; stolen vehicles 35; protection orders 22; active warrants 12; and gang or suspected terrorist, 3.

Over the same time period, the 14 cameras recorded 324,884 unique vehicles. The system was used for 42 searches.

Dare County first implemented cameras in 2014. Cameras operated at two locations with four cameras until 2023.

Phase I with Flock Safety started July 17, 2023, with four locations and eight cameras.

Phase II started July 14, 2025, with three locations and six cameras.

On Hatteras Island, Flock cameras are located at the north end of Avon and at NC 12 and Harbor Road.

Dare County Schools annual scores available. Dare County Schools reported academic gains across the district during the 2025-26 school year, including a record four-year graduation rate of 96.4%.

All schools met or exceeded expected academic growth, according to data reviewed and approved by the North Carolina State Board of Education on Sept. 2

On Hatteras Island, Cape Hatteras Elementary School and Cape Hatteras Secondary School maintained C performance grades while meeting or exceeding expected growth, reports Island Free Press.

Dare Early College and First Flight High School earned A performance grades, marking the first time two Dare County schools received the designation in the same year. Four schools earned B grades, including two that finished within two points of an A, while the district's remaining six schools received C grades.

North Carolina school performance grades are based 80% on student achievement and 20% on academic growth.

Schools receive an A for scores from 85 to 100, a B for 70 to 84, a C for 55 to 69, a D for 40 to 54 and an F for scores below 40.

For an in-depth analysis of the scores, visit Island Free Press.

Brief news items

--The 2026 Buxton beach nourishment project is approaching the halfway point, with roughly 930,400 cubic yards of sand placed along the shoreline since pumping began on July 31. The new total, included in Dare County's September newsletter, represents about 47% of the approximately 2 million cubic yards planned for the project.

--Community playground at the library in Hatteras village reopened September 2 after construction was finished.

--Hatteras Island Meals has launched its annual raffle to help fund weekday meal deliveries for elderly, homebound, and recovering residents from Rodanthe to Hatteras Village. Tickets are just \$10 each, or four for \$35. Buy them after Labor Day, Fridays at Conner's Supermarket in Buxton. The drawing is October 3. Learn more at Hatteras Island Meals dot Org.

Tolls on ferries topic September 8. The North Carolina Ferry Division will hold an open-house-style meeting about ferry tolling on the Ocracoke-Hatteras village route and other routes from 6 to 8 in the evening, Tuesday, September 8, at the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum.

Ferry Division representatives will be available to answer questions and receive feedback individually, but the sessions will not include a traditional public-comment period in which speakers address the full audience.

Comments may also be submitted through the NCDOT ferry-tolling webpage or, by emailing ferry tolling at public input dot com or by calling 984-205-6615 and entering project code 10744. The formal public-comment period ends at midnight September 14. On Monday, September 1, 2026, Dare's commissioners joined other counties in passing a joint resolution asking for the waiving of tolls for locally registered vehicles.

Morning of September 10 for the Gee Gee Celebration

At 9 o'clock, at the Cape Hatteras Secondary School, donation to The Buxton Civic Association Marjean "Gee Gee" Rosell Memorial Scholarship Fund from Beach Glass Books representing early proceeds of sales of "The Gee Gee Book."

Speakers appearing are George Butcher (Gee Gee's brother), principal Beth Rooks, Outer Banks Community Foundation President/CEO Chris Sawin, and the book's editor, Ray McAllister, to make the presentation. After the presentation, head over to Buxton Village Books for book signing.

Dare remembrance of 9-11

Dare County EMS and the Kill Devil Hills Fire Department host its annual March to Remember September 11 on Friday, September 11, 2026, inviting members of the public to join emergency responders in honoring the lives lost and the sacrifices made on September 11, 2001.

The march begins promptly at 8:46 a.m., the time when American Airlines Flight 11 struck the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

Registration begins at 7 o'clock at Dare County EMS Station 1/Kill Devil Hills Fire Department Station 14, at 1628 N. Croatan Highway in Kill Devil Hills. Attendees are encouraged to park at Meekins Park or the Dare Centre and walk to the station, which serves as the starting point for the walk. Light refreshments, generously donated for the event, will be available for attendees.

Fisheries coalition meets

The North Carolina Coastal Counties Fisheries Coalition will meet Wednesday, Sept. 16, in Morehead City to discuss issues affecting the state's fishing industry.

The public meeting will begin at 1 p.m. in the waterside main hall of the Crystal Coast Civic Center at 203 College Circle.

The 19-county coalition was established in August 2025 to give coastal governments a unified voice on legislation, regulations and other issues affecting commercial fishermen, seafood businesses and working waterfronts.

Its formation was spearheaded by Dare County Board of Commissioners Chairman Robert L. "Bob" Woodard, who also serves as chairman of the coalition.

Now, be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.