

Weekly News Summary for Sunday, September 27, 2026.

This Sunday, NC 12 remains closed. At high tide this morning, NC 12 at the Pea Island hot spot at the Visitor Center was under water with waves rolling in. NC 12 in the northern end Buxton however showed no overwash. Hatteras village was experiencing flooding from Slash Creek. With the wind turning west, piled up water was gently flooding Rodanthe backyards.

NCDOT has set up emergency ferries to run between Rodanthe on Hatteras Island and Stumpy Point on the Mainland. Ferries accommodate vehicles and walk-on passengers. A schedule has been posted on NCDOT NC 12 on Facebook.

No restrictions are in place about leaving Hatteras Island; however, entry to Hatteras Island is restricted to Priority One and Priority Two individuals under Dare County's State of Emergency. Non-resident visitors and non-resident property owners are not permitted to enter Hatteras Island at this time.

A one-way ferry trip takes about two hours. Ferry space is limited, and travelers should expect long lines and significant delays. A very long line was in place in Rodanthe an hour before the next ferry departure. No timeline exists for resumption of visitor access.

Transporting essential supplies is a priority for emergency ferry operations. Commodities designated as essential by Dare County Emergency Management—which may include food, fuel and medical supplies—will receive priority before other traffic is accommodated.

Throughout Sunday, a Coastal Flood Advisory is in effect until midnight. A Beach Hazards statement warns of dangerous rip currents, large breaking waves, and hazardous debris in the surf zone. Stay out of the ocean water.

The declaration for the Dare County State of Emergency says the emergency was “due to the treacherous ocean conditions from a Nor’easter that inflicted significant structural damage and flooded North Carolina Highway 12 rendering it unusable to access Hatteras Island putting people, property, and public health, safety and welfare at risk...”

The bright spot is the forecast for the upcoming week. Starting Monday, the forecast calls for mostly sunny skies with temperatures in the 70s.

The storm pushed Atlantic Ocean water over northern Rodanthe and Waves. The dune structure gave way and the two major privately-owned campgrounds, Camp Hatteras and Outer Banks KOA, were awash in ocean water that also covered NC 12.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore closed the beach between the north Rodanthe boundary and the Rodanthe Pier due to threatened structures which may fall in the ocean.

The newly nourished beach in Buxton has apparently survived but no inspection has been made.

Dare County Departmental Cancellations:

Dare County Transportation:

Dare County Transportation has announced it will not operate south of the Oregon Inlet Bridge that due to storm impacts until road conditions improve. For additional information, contact the Dare County Transportation office at 252-475-5640.

Trash collection on Hatteras Island suspended

Dare County Public Works says residential and commercial trash collection on Hatteras Island is suspended until road conditions on NC 12 improve. This suspension includes trash collection in the villages of Rodanthe, Waves, Salvo, Avon, Buxton, Frisco and Hatteras Village.

For additional information, contact Dare County Public Works at 252-475-5844.

Stay out of Flood Water

The Dare County Department of Health & Human Services is urging residents and visitors on Hatteras Island to avoid walking, wading, swimming or playing in areas impacted by flooding and stormwater.

Floodwater is not safe for recreational use. Even when the water appears clean, it may contain sewage, fecal material, bacteria, chemicals, debris and other hidden hazards that can cause illness or injury.

To protect your health during and after flooding, DCDHHS recommends the following precautions:

- Stay out of floodwater..
- Keep children away from floodwater.
- Clean exposed skin immediately.
- Protect cuts and wounds.
- Check your tetanus vaccination status..
- Disinfect contaminated toys. A disinfecting solution can be made using 1 cup of household bleach in 5 gallons of water.

The department advises the public to treat all floodwater as potentially contaminated and to keep themselves, children and pets out of it.

Some interesting happenings

Beach Pharmacy in the Avon Shopping Center and Outer Banks Family Medicine in Avon both opened on Saturday to attend to emergencies. The pharmacy opened briefly on Sunday too.

Thanks.

On Saturday, NCDOT vehicle Ferries started running from Ocracoke to Cedar Island and Swan Quarter. For Reservations: call 1-800 By Ferry. The Hatteras village to Ocracoke route has reopened.

At Frisco Woods Campground, a couple with a planned wedding had a true Hatteras Island happening. An estimated 400 people showed up to help Jayden and Kim celebrate their wedding. Wow! See the Island Free Press for photos and a story.

Right now, the folks at St. John United Methodist Church on McMullen Road in Avon are serving a Free Dinner starting a 5 o'clock. If you hurry over, maybe you can enjoy this feast with Chili, BBQ and slaw, Chicken Rice Soup, Lasagna and cake and deserts. All invited.

Now for some news not about the storm

Information meetings set for sales tax referendum

Dare County will host three community meetings in early October to provide residents with information about the one-quarter cent sales tax referendum that will appear on the November 3, 2026, General Election ballot. If approved by voters, the sales tax increase—which is one-quarter

of a penny—would provide a source of funding that the Commissioners committed to at their last meeting to immediately use for improvements, renovations and expansions to Dare County Parks and Recreation facilities and fields, addressing needs identified through a countywide recreation assessment and community input.

The community meetings will be held at each of the Dare County Parks and Recreation Department's three divisions. All meetings start at 6 o'clock.

Hatteras Island Division: Monday, October 5, Fessenden Center, 46830 N.C. 12, Buxton

Roanoke Island/Mainland Division: Tuesday, October 6, Lions Club Center, 1000 Westcott Park Road, Manteo

Northern Beach Division: Wednesday, October 7, Dare County Youth Center, 602 Mustian Street, Kill Devil Hills.

For more information, including answers to a variety of frequently asked questions about the referendum, visit [DareNC dot gov slash QuarterCent](http://DareNC.gov/QuarterCent).

Beach Buggy Red Drum tourney registration open

Registration is open for the 17th annual North Carolina Beach Buggy Association Red Drum Tournament, which will bring 60 hours of surf fishing and more than \$14,000 in prizes to Hatteras Island from October 21 to 24.

Fishing will start at 6 o'clock Wednesday evening.

Anglers may compete individually or as part of a team, with prize categories for red drum, bluefish and sea mullet. Teams may include three to six anglers, but each participant must register individually and provide the team name during registration.

Unlike tournaments with assigned fishing stations, the NCBBA event allows participants to select their own locations within the designated fishing area and fish throughout the 60-hour competition. Fishing will be permitted from Ramp 23 through Ramp 45, excluding Ramp 44 and the Cape Point area. Anglers must observe National Park Service wildlife and safety closures.

The registration fee is \$130 per angler. Online registration will close Oct. 16, while late registration will be available in person from 8 to 6, Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Check-in and in-person registration will be held at the Avon Volunteer Fire Department at 40159 Harbor Road. Fishing will conclude Saturday, Oct. 24, followed by an awards ceremony that afternoon at Lighthouse Assembly of God in Buxton.

Karen Huizing Named Dare County Schools Teacher of Excellence

Karen Huizing, an exceptional children teacher at Cape Hatteras Elementary School, is this year's recipient of the Council for Exceptional Children's Teacher of Excellence Award!

Huizing is recognized for her patience, compassion and dedication to meeting the individual needs of her students. Her colleagues describe her as dependable, collaborative and, most importantly, fearless—willing to take on challenges and always committed to finding what works best for each student.

Upcoming events

The North Carolina Ferry Division has cancelled the Job Fair scheduled for September 30. The fair will be rescheduled.

North Carolina Beach Buggy Association has scheduled a beach cleanup for October 3, starting at 9 in the morning at Ramp 23. Bring five-gallon bucket.

The Fessenden Center's sunset cruise on the Miss Hatteras that was originally scheduled for last week has been postponed to Thursday, October 1. The center is accepting registrations for next week at 252-475-5650. The cost will be \$30 cash payable at the boat.

Be safe out there. This is Radio Hatteras.