



Hyde County Emergency Management

1223 Main Street - P. O. Box 95

Swan Quarter, N. C. 27885

252-926-4374 - 252-926-3701 Fax

em@hydecountync.gov

Fire Marshal - Safety Officer - PSAP Administrator

Ocracoke Island Disaster Reentry Stickers

Hyde County Emergency Management will issue stickers:

Wednesday, June 18

1 PM – 5PM

Wednesday, June 25

1 PM – 5PM

Ocracoke Community Center – EM Office

These stickers will be good for two (2) years. Please be prepared to show your driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of property ownership (for non-residents only).

If you are unable to attend these dates, you may mail or fax in these items and stickers will be mailed to you around July 1st. Qualified employers requesting Priority Stickers for your staff, please do so by June 15. Resident Stickers will not be mailed to off-island addresses.



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Ocracoke Island Evacuation & Reentry Procedures (Generally used for Tropical Weather Events)

The responsibility for ordering an evacuation of Ocracoke resides with the Hyde County Board of Commissioner Chairperson, the Ocracoke Commissioner or another Commissioner acting in their absences, per Hyde County Ordinances, the Hyde County Emergency Operations Plan, and / or N. C. General Statutes. It is generally performed at the recommendation of the Ocracoke Control Group and / or the Hyde County Emergency Management Coordinator.

- * Whenever possible, evacuations will begin in coordination with ferry schedules and during daylight hours to maximize available traffic flow. Once so ordered, ferry schedules (and often routes) may be altered and run continuously as possible on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- * Notification of the public may include the use of: telephone, radio, NOAA weather radio, television, signs, faxes, emails, and public address systems.
- * Visitors should leave as soon as instructed once an evacuation order is given and should transport all belongings. Residents should prepare and secure their property and then evacuate. Priority personnel may remain until late stages of evacuation.
- * Prior to departing, evacuees should turn off gas, water, and electrical services to all structures to avoid the potential for additional damage when emergency services will not be available. Loose property should be secured prior to gale force winds. Any hazardous chemicals should be securely stored or removed from the island.
- * Recreational vehicles are required by Hyde County Ordinances to be capable of "road ready" within 30 minutes. RVs and boats on trailers should be removed from the island whenever a Tropical Storm threatens and prior to evacuation. Once evacuations have begun, non-residents will not be allowed to enter to retrieve RVs and boats (on trailers) due to limited ferry space for evacuation.
- * Standard evacuation routes may be altered by weather conditions and conditions in the surrounding counties. Monitor local media for updates and instructions.
- * 911 and Public Safety services may be suspended or interrupted during a Tropical Event or State of Emergency without notice. Responses will continue only when staff is available and it is safe to do so. EMS service and patient transport off the island may not be possible by any means. It is extremely important that persons with known health concerns evacuate early. All Hyde County personnel, vehicles, and equipment will be removed from the island for any possible Category 3 or higher event. A partial removal may occur for lesser events.
- * Any person disregarding evacuation orders waives all expectation of emergency assistance, and stay solely at their own risk.
- * When any flooding threatens, please do not obstruct high points and bridges (such as in Oyster Creek), so that emergency vehicles and utility trucks can get thru when applicable.

Reentry

- * Reentry will be conducted in stages in every evacuation event, once damage assessment has occurred and ferry services are restored:
 - Stage One – Priority personnel (Government, Public Safety, utility, key supplies, etc.)
 - Stage Two – Residents
 - Stage Three – Non-Residents who own improved property
 - Stage Four – No Restriction
- * *As a guideline only*, when little or no damage has occurred: Stage One will last for approximately 6-8 hours, Stage 2 for approximately 12-16 hours and Stage 3 for approximately 6 hours (if necessary) and will be coordinated with the N. C. Ferry System. However, lesser priorities *may* be able to enter on an availability basis, at the discretion of the Hyde County Emergency Operations Center.
- * Reentry may or may not be available through the normal travel routes due to conditions in the surrounding counties. Routing through Dare County and Carteret County will be performed in conjunction with their local reentry stages and only when they are able to allow it.
- * *Private Vehicles re-entering via Hatteras and Cedar Island MUST display approved Ocracoke Reentry Stickers issued by Hyde County*, as the Highway Patrol and other law enforcement present will not have the means or knowledge to make exception. Vehicles without stickers may reenter via Swan Quarter if identification / purpose can be verified *and staff is available*. You will need proof of employment, residency, or property ownership.
- * In the presence of sub-standard conditions, it is possible that travel to the island may be restricted to a specified length of time, in order to examine property or retrieve items only.

Reentry Permits

- * Reentry permits will be issued each May or June for a two year period. Permits must be installed on the windshield, above or beside the N. C. Inspection Sticker. Permits must be peeled off when selling a vehicle or replacing a windshield. Replacement permits will not be issued without providing the previous permit. Lost permits will not be replaced. No permits will be issued when a storm threatens. Adequately marked government and utility vehicles do not require permits.
- * Priority permits will be issued thru employers.
- * Resident permits will be issued to Ocracoke Residents, with a maximum of two total permits per dwelling, except in rare circumstances when three may be issued. *Resident stickers will not be mailed to off-island addresses.*
- * Non-resident passes will be issued (one per property) to the owners of improved property.
- * Persons found to be defrauding the reentry procedures will forfeit reentry permit privileges.

Information

- * Hyde County will attempt to utilize all available media in dissemination of all evacuation and reentry information. Hyde County EM maintains an extensive contact list to provide information to. Reentry information will be available by calling 252-926-4374 whenever possible. However, experience has shown that local telephone systems are easily compromised and unavailable following Tropical Events.