



Georgetown City Fire Department

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**City Of Georgetown
Local Weather Statement
Tropical Storm Hanna
12:30 PM September 4, 2008**

(Updates Evacuation and Shelter Information)

This is official information from the City of Georgetown issued by Mayor Lynn Wood Wilson's Office.

The National Weather Service Office in Wilmington is forecasting potential tropical storm conditions for the Georgetown area Friday or Friday night, with the approach of Tropical Storm Hanna. Only a slight possibility of hurricane force winds is forecast for Georgetown at this time.

Tropical Storm Hanna is expected to begin affecting our area sometime during the evening Friday with gale force winds and heavy rainfall. According to the forecast wind gusts as high as 45 to 50 mph are possible overnight.

Flooding is likely in low-lying areas and flood prone areas. Residents are urged to take precautions to protect property and materials subject to flooding.

A voluntary evacuation has been issued by Governor Sanford and is in effect for areas east of Highway 17. If you live in low lying flood prone areas or in a mobile home, you should consider evacuation at this time. You are encouraged to evacuate to a family or friends home further inland. However, if necessary you may evacuate to the Pleasant Hill Elementary school shelter which will open at 4 PM.

If you decide to seek shelter please remember to bring the following items with you. Blankets, sleeping bags; toiletries; prescription medications; games for children; diapers and baby food. Do not bring pets or weapons.

If you need transportation to a shelter the pickup points in the City are Foodlion South on south Fraser Street; St. Stephens AME Church on Winyah Street and the old Walmart building on North Fraser Street. Pickup sites are available today from 5 to 7 PM and tomorrow from 7 to 10 am.

City departments are preparing for possible flooding conditions. Motorists are urged to avoid areas that commonly flood like Fraser Street from Front to Highmarket, Front from Fraser to Cleland, Prince from Fraser to Cleland, Dozier from Church to Highmarket. Areas known to flood during thunderstorms should be avoided. Motorists are cautioned not to drive through water, as it may be likely the roadway has washed away, and not to drive around barricades.

Interruptions in electrical service will be handled promptly as long as weather conditions permit safe operations; widespread outages normally associated with tropical systems are not anticipated. If you experience an outage, please call 545-4600 and report your address and telephone number.

All electric crews will be on duty to handle any interruptions in service. Please do not connect an electrical generator to your household electrical service without the proper switching system. Electrical generators improperly connected to your home can create an electrical shock hazard to linemen.

Water services are supported by electrical generators and interruptions in water service are not anticipated.

Police and Fire crews are at full strength to handle any emergencies. Please dial 911 only for emergencies. The City's radio station, WGEO FM 105.7 is broadcasting storm information. Areas damaged by the storm will be restricted to access without proper identification.

After the storm has passed, Public Works crews will begin clearing any debris. Please be extremely careful to avoid downed power lines as they could result in an electrical hazard.

City officials will continue to monitor the storm very closely and will issue additional information as conditions warrant. Additional weather information is available on the Fire Department's Web Site at <http://www.georgetowncityfire.org/Wcenter/index.htm>