



CATAWBA COUNTY

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EMERGENCY SERVICES URGES RESIDENTS TO GET READY FOR TONIGHT'S STORMS

Catawba County is expecting severe weather tonight as a cold front moves quickly across the area. Severe weather, with potentially damaging straight-line winds and isolated tornadoes, is possible overnight for Catawba County and western North Carolina. Because of the timing of this storm, most people will be asleep and may not hear official information and warnings.

Catawba County Emergency Services will be closely monitoring the storm, watching local flood-prone roads and talking with partners such as Duke Energy and the National Weather Service to stay on top of the changing conditions. Staff will also be working with local fire and rescue departments, as well as emergency medical services to respond to emergencies should the need arise.

Residents should review their family emergency plan, check that their weather radio is turned on and locate their flashlights and extra batteries before going to bed tonight. People should never drive or walk across flooded roadways and should stay away from swift moving water, downed power lines and poles. If your business operates 24/7, please make sure your staff and co-workers are aware of this potential threat tonight and check that your weather radio is operational.

To Report a Power Outage –

Duke Energy customers should call:

- English: 1-800-POWERON (1-800-769-3766)
- Spanish: 1-866-4APAGON (1-866-427-2466)

City of Newton Utility Customers should call:

- (828) 465-7430

Town of Maiden Utility Customers should call:

- (828) 428-5000

Please *DO NOT* Call 9-1-1 to report a power outage.

Catawba County residents may register for the Community Alert System messages through the Catawba County government website at <http://www.catawbacountync.gov/alert> Official emergency news and preparedness information is posted on Twitter @CatCoEM and through the county Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/catawbacountync>