

TO: Hampton University Students, Faculty, Staff, Parents and Alumni

FROM: Matthew A. White

**Director of University Relations** 

RE: HURRICANE IAN WEATHER ADVISORY - Sept. 30, 2022 - 3:00 p.m.

Dear Hampton University Family:

Hampton University is prepared and committed to keeping our entire campus community safe, informed, and healthy. Latest weather forecasts predict heavy rain associated with Hurricane Ian continuing today through Tuesday. Breezy to windy conditions along the coast are also expected. The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a Tornado Watch through 10 p.m. Friday and High Wind Warning until 4 a.m. Saturday. The NWS has also issued a Flash Flood Warning for the City of Hampton and the Peninsula until 5:30 p.m.

What is the difference between a Tornado Watch and a Tornado Warning issued by the National Weather Service?

- Tornado Watch: Be Prepared! Tornadoes are possible in and near the watch area. Review and discuss your emergency plans and check supplies and your safe room. Be ready to act quickly if a warning is issued or you suspect a tornado is approaching. Acting early helps to save lives! Watches are issued by the <u>Storm Prediction Center</u> for counties where tornadoes may occur. The watch area is typically large, covering numerous counties or even states.
- Tornado Warning: Take Action! A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. There is imminent danger to life and property. Move to an interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building. Avoid windows. If in a mobile home, a vehicle, or outdoors, move to the closest substantial shelter and protect yourself from flying debris. Warnings are issued by your <u>local forecast office</u>. Warnings typically encompass a much smaller area (around the size of a city or small county) that may be impacted by a tornado identified by a forecaster on <u>radar</u> or by a trained spotter/law enforcement who is watching the storm.

Hampton University expects to operate normally and will continue to monitor the weather and its effects. However, the Waterfront Party scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 1st has been postponed. If on campus flooding near residence halls occurs, bus service to the dining hall will be made available to students. Please monitor the university website, official university social media accounts, your campus email and local news outlets for additional updates.

Some locations that will experience flash flooding include: Virginia Beach, Newport News, Hampton, Virginia Wesleyan University, Norfolk State University, Regent University, Downtown Norfolk, Kempsville, Downtown Portsmouth, Old Dominion University, Ocean View, Great Bridge, Deep Creek, Churchland, Hampton University, Langley AFB, Christopher Newport University, Patrick Henry Field, Norfolk and Chesapeake. Turn around, don't drown when encountering flooded roads. Most flood deaths occur in vehicles.

To ensure you receive accurate up-to-date information regarding campus alerts, please register with the Pirate Notification System (PNS). The PNS is Hampton University's urgent notification system, comprised of a variety of methods by which the University can contact students, faculty, and staff. If you have already created a PNS profile and want to update it, click the link below and sign in to update your information.