HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK
May 3 - 9, 2026

WHEREAS, hurricanes and tropical systems have impacted every North Carolina county with disastrous results, and;

WHEREAS, North Carolina is repeatedly one of the leading states nationally for overall damage from hurricanes, and;

WHEREAS, Buncombe County continues to recover from the devastating impacts from Tropical Storm Helene's 2024 landfall, and;

WHEREAS, our community knows all too well how hurricanes and tropical storms can cause life-threatening hazards such as flooding, storm surge, destructive winds, tornadoes and landslides, and;

WHEREAS, we continue to grieve the 43 lives lost in Buncombe County due to Helene, and;

WHEREAS, people are less likely to be injured when they have prepared ahead of time and know what to do when a hurricane threatens, even in the mountains, and;

WHEREAS, people should prepare their personal emergency supply kit to use at home or during an evacuation with enough food and water to sustain the members of their household for three days or longer, have a battery-powered or hand-cranked weather radio, and should know their evacuation routes and comply with local and state authorities when asked to evacuate, and;

WHEREAS, Buncombe County residents are urged to sign up for BC Alerts by texting "BCReady" to 67283 or by going to www.buncombeready.org;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service, local, and state government officials all work together before and during a hurricane or tropical storm to reduce the dangers posed to lives and property and provide a quick, effective response to these storms, and;

WHEREAS, the observance of Hurricane Preparedness Week by Buncombe County residents provides better protection from the dangers of hurricanes and tropical storms,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners proclaims **May 3 – 9, 2026** as **Hurricane Preparedness Week** in Buncombe County, and encourages all County residents to sign up for BC Alerts, assemble emergency supply kits, and update their emergency plans.

This 5th day of May, 2026.

Amanda Edwards

Amanda Edwards, Chair
Buncombe County Board of Commissioners