

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

SEVERE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS WEEK

2021

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina is traditionally an active state for severe weather; in 2020 our state experienced 48 tornados, 247 flood incidents, and 609 severe thunderstorms with damaging wind and hail, all resulting in more than \$27.5 million in damages statewide; and

WHEREAS, last year the National Weather Service in North Carolina issued 312 tornado warnings, 1,450 severe thunderstorm warnings, and 451 flash flood warnings; the average warning time for severe weather and tornadoes was 19 minutes and 60 minutes for flash flood warnings; and

WHEREAS, severe thunderstorms produce hail at least one inch in diameter, wind speeds at or surpassing 58 miles per hour, and/or can produce a tornado; all thunderstorms that produce lightning and lightning strikes are a significant threat in North Carolina, especially for people involved in outdoor recreational and sporting events; and

WHEREAS, local radio, television, and a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration weather radio provides the latest information on severe weather; and

WHEREAS, residents, businesses, and schools are urged to participate in the statewide tornado drill on Wednesday, March 10 at 9:30 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, families should practice an emergency plan with details on how and where to get to a safe location on regularly traveled routes, and how to contact each other during emergencies; and

WHEREAS, individuals should have an emergency supply kit in their homes and vehicles that includes a first aid kit, battery-powered radio, flashlight, non-perishable foods, bottled water, sturdy shoes, and work gloves; and

WHEREAS, ReadyNC.org and its mobile application are available to provide current weather, power outages, traffic conditions, and shelter availability to help residents with their emergency preparedness plans; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages all communities, families, and individuals to organize appropriate activities that promote awareness of severe weather and how to stay safe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 7 – 13, 2021, as "SEVERE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS WEEK" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

Roy Cooper Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this fifth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.