

Hurricane Matthew Preparations

October 6, 2016 Update (6:00 PM):

As part of our response efforts, DHEC has taken the following actions (updated at 6 p.m. on 10/6/2016):

Evacuation of Health Care Facilities:

DHEC continues to reach out to facilities to assess and monitor their resident population, evacuation status, and any needs or issues they have or anticipate. Our staff is currently working 24 hours a day to assist the licensed healthcare facilities and residents with their evacuation plans to receiving facilities.

On Oct. 4, 2016, the Governor issued a Mandatory Medical Evacuation (MME) for health care facilities regulated by DHEC in the evacuation zone. DHEC continues to provide transportation assistance as requested to help hospitals and nursing homes safely evacuate their patients before the storm.

As of Thursday at 6 p.m., **88 health care facilities had evacuated** in preparation for the storm.

Special Medical Needs Shelters:

During times of emergency, DHEC operates [Special Medical Needs Shelters](#) to provide shelter for people whose medical conditions exceed the capabilities of the Red Cross shelters, but are not severe enough to require a hospital stay. We do not provide health care services in these shelters. *(Note: If you think you may need this type of shelter, please call DHEC at 1-800-868-0404.)*

As of Thursday at 6 p.m., **4 Special Medical Needs Shelters** had been requested and established in the following locations:

- Health South, 9181 Medcom St., Charleston
- Carolinas Hospital System, 2829 US Hwy 76, Mullins
- Lake City Community Hospital, 258 N. Ron McNair Blvd, Lake City
- Dorchester County Senior Center, 312 N. Laurel Street, Summerville

Coastal Resources:

DHEC issued blanket emergency orders to local governments to allow property owners along the immediate beachfront to conduct sand scraping or install sandbags to provide temporary protection from anticipated wave uprush from the storm. Additionally, DHEC has asked local governments along the coast to provide updates on beachfront erosion and damage through our [MYCoast application](#).

Dams:

As of Thursday at 6 p.m., there were **50** state-regulated dams located within the evacuation zone, including 3 significant hazard dams and 47 low-hazard dams. On Tuesday, DHEC implemented the CodeRED system to notify dam owners via voice call, text messages and email to prepare for potential significant rainfall. Dam owners also have been advised to lower water levels.