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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 30, 2023

Jones County Closely Monitoring Hurricane Idalia

TRENTON, N.C. – Jones County Government is closely monitoring Hurricane Idalia as it approaches the North Carolina Coastline. Jones County Emergency Management will continue to follow established Emergency Operations Plans and Procedures. Citizens are encouraged to closely monitor the local impact statements based on where they live, and make preparations for the potential of high wind gusts, heavy rain (up to 10 inches in areas), power outages, localized flooding, and tornado activity. The approaching storm poses potential for life-threatening conditions and widespread damages.

Jones County residents should make sure they are prepared throughout hurricane season. Citizens are encouraged to check their Emergency Supply Kits and Pet Disaster Supply Kits for needed supplies during a hurricane. More time than usual may be necessary to obtain emergency supply kit materials, so citizens are encouraged to make preparations early. Also, prepare by having an adequate supply of flashlights, batteries, bottled water, non-perishable foods and medicines. Citizens using home oxygen are encouraged to have an alternative oxygen supply in the event of prolonged power outages.

“Staff in our Emergency Services and Law Enforcement divisions are closely monitoring the track and potential impacts of Hurricane Idalia. We stand ready to answer to any event or emergency that may arise. We have trained professionals that are prepared to implement established procedures as needed” states Kyle Smith, Jones County Manager.

All residents, law enforcement, and emergency response personnel are encouraged to cooperate with all safety measures that are communicated and abide by any restrictions that may become necessary to overcome any emergency situation.

Jones County offices will be closed tomorrow, August 31, 2023, but Public Safety officials and staff will remain open and will be ready to assist as needed.

Residents are encouraged to know a safe place to shelter and to have several ways to receive weather alerts such as National Weather Service cell phone alerts, NOAA Weather Radio, and/or follow National Weather Service Facebook and Twitter alerts.

Jones County Government Emergency Management updates will appear on the Jones County website at www.jonescountync.gov and on the Jones County NC Facebook page. Visit the Jones County website for information on how to sign up for emergency alerts through the Hyper-Reach Emergency Notification System. The Jones County Emergency Operations Center can be reached at (252) 397-0007.