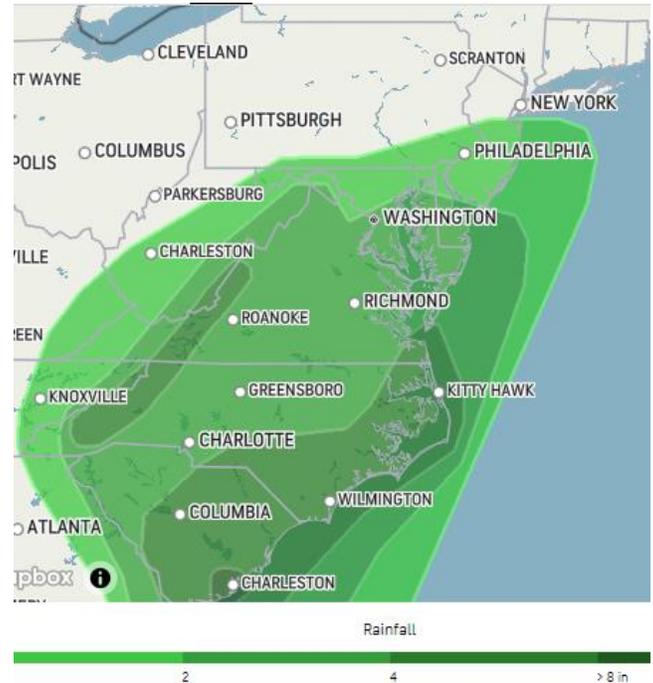




Expected Heavy Rain This Weekend

Gov. Glenn Youngkin declared a state of emergency for Virginia on Wednesday, as Hurricane Ian slammed into the southwestern coast of Florida and started a destructive path north. It looks like the outer rainbands from Hurricane Ian will begin to graze the Northern Virginia area tomorrow afternoon and continue into the weekend. Moderate to heavy rain and scattered flooding are the biggest potential threats, the National Weather Service says. Wind may be an issue on the water and in high-elevation areas along the Blue Ridge Mountains. The heaviest of the rain as of now, will be on Saturday and Sunday.



Tips on preparing your home:

- Bring loose, lightweight items inside
- Anchor objects unsafe to bring inside
- Trim/remove limbs and damaged trees near structures
- Clear and secure rain gutters and downspouts
- Document the condition of your home prior to the storm

Here are some additional tips from NBC Washington/StormTeam4:

- Is your emergency kit stocked? [Here's a helpful guide on what you need from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.](#)
- Pick up essentials, including medication, shelf-stable groceries and extra pet food, before bad weather arrives.
- Put new batteries in flashlights and put them in places that are easy to find, such as on your bedside table.
- Make communication and evacuation plans. [Ready.gov](#) has tools to help.

Virginia State Police provided the following guidance in a press release to help citizens remain safe during the severe weather conditions:

- State law requires headlights to be on when windshield wipers are activated. Headlights both help you see and be seen.
- Slow your speed for conditions.
- Buckle up...everyone in the vehicle.
- Put the phone down and limit other distractions.
- If you encounter standing water in the road – Turn around. Don't drown. The depth of the water can be deceiving and dangerous for all vehicles. It's not worth the risk.
- Turn to VDOT's 511 for the latest in road closures and openings. Please do not call 911 or #77 for non-emergency issues or road closure information.



References:

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