

Governor, Homeland Security chief urge residents to prepare for hurricanes

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Governor Mike Easley and Homeland Security chief Michael Chertoff are urging North Carolinians to prepare themselves for this year's hurricane season by stocking emergency supplies and making disaster plans with their families.

Easley said forecasters anticipate "above average storms." According to National Weather Service projections, 13 to 17 tropical storms are expected to form in the Atlantic this season, with seven to ten of them becoming hurricanes. Three to five of those storms are expected to be in the strong category.