



# Emergency Preparedness:

How Bridgestone  
Prepares for Mother  
Nature's Fury



# Emergency Preparedness

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- Quick Overview of Bridgestone Operations
- Recent Storm Statistics
- Strategies for Storm Preparation
- Important Websites
- Lessons learned



# Bridgestone America's Wilson

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- Plant is situated in two watersheds – the Tar-Pamlico and the Upper Neuse
- During this last storm, we were midway through a large building expansion project
- We also had a new Safety Manager, a new Construction Manager and Plant Manager





Bridgestone Americas  
Wilson, NC

Our Plant:  
Original Construction 1973

Approximately 62 acres  
under roof  
~2,000 employees  
24/7 operations

We produce around  
30-31,000 passenger tires  
per day

Currently undergoing a  
massive expansion/  
modernization effort





# Recent Storm Statistics

## NOAA research on climate change and Atlantic storms

- Rapid Intensification of storms is increasing
- Overall number of hurricanes/ tropical storms is expected to decrease
- Intensity of storms likely to increase
- Total rainfall from storms likely to increase

**Takeaway message – Expect to see fewer storms per season, but expect that storms will be more intense and produce heavier rainfall**

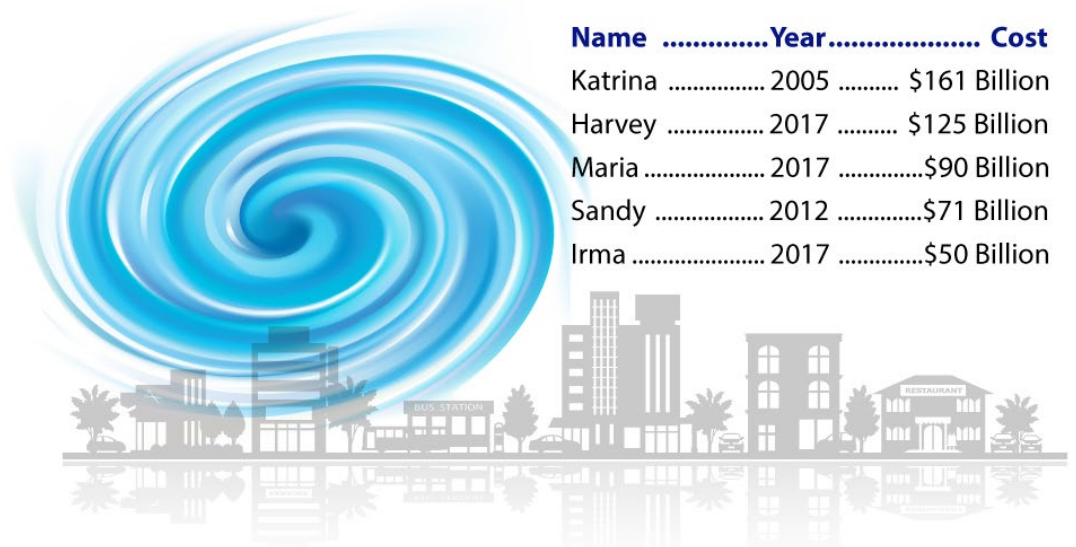
# Recent Storm Statistics

**\$306.2 billion 2017**

The cumulative cost of the 16 separate billion-dollar weather events in the U.S. in 2017 was \$306.2 billion, breaking the previous cost record of \$214.8 billion (2005).



## The Top Five Costliest U.S. Hurricanes on Record





# Hurricane Florence in NC

## September 12-15, 2018

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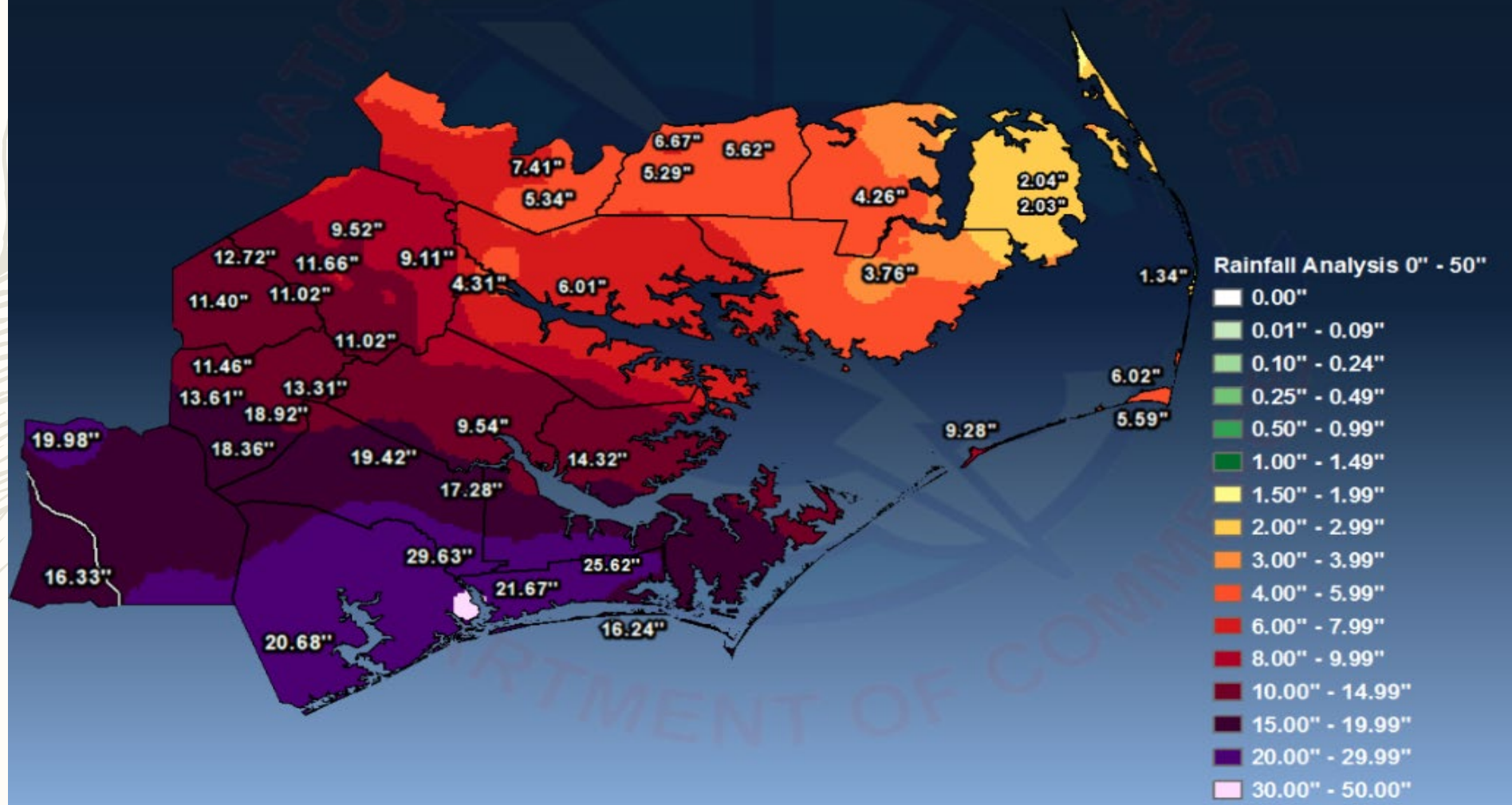
- **Storm-Related Fatalities: 45 (as of 4/18/2019)**
- **Rescued and Evacuated: 5,214 people + 1,067 animals (final number)**
- **State Resources Deployed**
  - **2,800** N.C. National Guard soldiers activated
  - State Troopers
  - **14** Swift Water Rescue Teams
  - **28** Boat Crews
  - **3** Urban S&R Teams
- **Out-of-State Resources Deployed**
  - 1,100 personnel from 35 states



# National Weather Service Newport/Morehead City North Carolina

## Preliminary Hurricane Florence Rainfall Totals

Data Source: Regional Observations(PNS)



This is an experimental product. Care should be taken in using the data. Unofficial observations are plotted. Values at interpolated locations may not represent actual precipitation totals at that location.



# Strategies for Storm Preparation

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- Start Early
- Meet Daily
- 2 Days prior to impact meet at least twice a day
- Leave your desk and walk around outside
- Look for biggest areas of risk



# Strategies for Storm Preparation One Week Prior

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- Most important activity at this point is to take a very thorough site walk. Have several different people walking the same areas. Look between, around and under everything.
- Make note of any loose materials, unstable signs, check every single containment area
- You will want to walk your site every day
- Schedule waste containers to be emptied 2 days prior to predicted impact
- Provide extra containers inside to capture water from roof leaks



# Strategies for Storm Preparation

## One week prior

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- Make sure outside storage areas are empty – schedule pump out services if necessary
- Make sure outside storage areas are clean – we have our janitorial service begin cleaning the inside of all secondary containment
- Make sure all clean-up materials are removed







# Strategies for Storm Preparation

## Week of Storm

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- Continue to monitor outside condition of your facility. Look very carefully
  - Objects that could become projectiles
  - Equipment with fuel storage, move inside where possible
- Securely tie down equipment/materials that cannot be moved inside
- Schedule removal of waste containers early
- Have a paper list of site contacts. Do not depend on electronic access
- Check your stormwater structures
  - Make sure they are clear
  - Protect them from materials that could discharge to them



# Websites with Good, Real-time Information

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- National Hurricane Center – provides up to date forecast information
  - <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>
- National Weather Service – Really great website. You are able to drill down to the county level and see predicted wind speeds, rainfall, pretty accurate arrival times. I used this several times a day during the storm. They put out briefings that have all the information you need, at least daily during storms.
  - [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)



# Lessons Learned

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- Keep all team members on task. Written plans are important planning tools, but immediately before the storm it is more important to have feet on the ground outside.
- Prepare for tornadoes after or during the storm. Do a refresher shelter in place drill prior to impact.
- Advise out of town contractors of best places to ride out the storm
- Do not let anyone on your site after the storm who does not have an appointment. Reinforce this with security.