



City of Charleston (SC) Emergency Management
Weather Intelligence Report
Monday, October 7, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

**MILTON IMPACTS: WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND ESPECIALLY THURSDAY;
KEEP PREPARING IN CASE TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS COME**

Summary. National Weather Service (NWS) Charleston reminds readers to prepare for tropical storm conditions and impacts because of Hurricane Milton's potential track shifts and enormous wind field. Small and sudden track changes may yield more significant impacts. Expect gusty winds Wednesday into Friday, and especially Wednesday night into Thursday. Projected rainfall totals have increased. A day-to-day forecast follows.



Tuesday. Maximum sustained winds gradually increase to 10-15 mph. No rain is expected. Expect dangerous rip currents and surf.

Wednesday. If Charleston receives tropical storm force conditions, the *earliest reasonable* arrival time would be **Wednesday night** but the *most likely* arrival time is **Thursday morning**, according to the National Hurricane Center (NHC). Expect maximum sustained winds of around 15 mph with gusts 20-25 mph. High tide at 12:09 a.m. is 6.1 feet. Minor flooding may occur with the 12:47 p.m. high tide of 7.2 feet. No rain is expected. Expect dangerous rip currents and surf.

Thursday. Tropical storm force conditions, if they occur, would most likely arrive Thursday morning before sunrise. Expect maximum sustained winds and gusts to increase sharply then and to continue through evening. At night, winds begin to diminish. Watch for possible tropical storm force conditions in Charleston Harbor.

Rain begins by early morning Thursday and continues through the day. About 1-1.5 inches is projected at a 30% chance. Locally higher amounts are possible. High tide at 1:04 a.m. is 6.3 feet. High tide at 1:50 p.m. is TBD but has a greater than 10% chance of reaching major flood stage. Expect dangerous rip currents and surf.

Friday. Winds are elevated but continue to diminish. The high tide at 2:08 a.m. and at 2:57 p.m. are TBD. Light residual rain is possible early Friday morning. Watch for dangerous rip currents and surf at area beaches.

Storm position, track, and intensity. As of 8:00 a.m., Hurricane Milton was over the Gulf of Mexico about 745 miles west-southwest of Tampa, with maximum sustained winds of 125 mph, according to the NHC. The storm was moving east-southeast at 8 mph with a minimum central pressure of 945 mb.

Milton has become a major hurricane and is moving eastward to northeastward across the Gulf. On Wednesday, Milton will be at or near major hurricane strength when it reaches Florida's west coast. Milton will continue to track east across central Florida on Wednesday. Between Wednesday night and early Thursday morning, Milton is projected to be over the Atlantic Ocean. **On Thursday, Milton is expected to track off the Georgia and South Carolina coasts with impacts several hundred miles from its center. Small changes in the track could yield significant changes. There is much uncertainty in the forecast and confidence remains low.**

Impacts. Watch for forecast changes that may point to outages or tree and power line damage from high winds or the need for road closures, barricading, and rescues.

Advisory/Watches/Warnings. For South Carolina beaches, a High Rip Current Risk is in effect through this evening.

Take action. This forecast should inform your department's operations and the safety of the public and city staff. Supervisors may disseminate this report to city staff as necessary.

Updates/Tide-eye/Road closures. Emergency Management will update reporting as necessary. Follow current and forecast conditions at the city's Tide-eye app: <https://gis.charleston-sc.gov/tideeye/>. Follow road closures here: <https://gis.charleston-sc.gov/road-closures-regional/>