

Georgia governor declares emergency ahead of hurricane

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Georgia has declared a state of emergency as Hurricane Florence, pictured from the International Space Station, barrels toward the US East Coast

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal declared a state of emergency in the southern US state on Wednesday ahead of the arrival of Hurricane Florence.

Deal said he was issuing the emergency declaration for all 159 counties in Georgia "in light of the storm's forecasted southward track after making landfall."

Florence, a powerful Category 4 hurricane, is expected to make landfall in the Carolinas late Thursday or early Friday but [heavy rainfall](#) is expected to hit Georgia to the south.

"The state is mobilizing all available resources to ensure public safety ahead of Hurricane Florence," Deal said in a statement.

"I encourage Georgians to be prepared for the inland effects of the storm as well as the ensuing storm surge in [coastal areas](#)," he said.

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