



VOTERS WILL decide in November if the redistricting plan Brunswick County Commissioners chose Monday is the one residents want. This map shows the new districts and their populations as determined by the Brunswick County Planning Department.

Redistricting Choice Offers Fewest Changes

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Each district will contain about 10,197 residents. When commissioners drew district lines in August 1983, each contained approximately 7,200 residents.
In Brunswick County, while candidates run from and represent the district in which they reside, they are elected by voters countywide. The districts are the same for both commissioners and the Brunswick County Board of Education. Both boards have five members, one from each district.
Holden polled commissioners Monday to determine which plan members favored. All but District 5 Commissioner Donald Shaw picked the first plan. Shaw had asked for Plan 2, but conceded to make the vote unanimous.

"I had to think about it," added Shaw.
District 3 Commissioner Gene Pinkerton said the plan chosen "represents the least amount of people moved and geographical changes" than the other four plans submitted by Planning Director John Harvey.
"I think Plan 4 was very interesting," said Holden.
That plan would have grouped all of the county's beaches into one district, from Caswell Beach to Sunset Beach.
The plan residents will vote on Nov. 5 are structured as follows:
District 1: Represented by Kelly Holden, 10,152 residents, includes Ocean Isle Beach, Sunset Beach and areas south of N.C. 130 to the Columbus County line and east of N.C. 179 to Brickland;

District 2: Represented by Jerry Jones, 10,237 residents, includes Shallotte, Holden Beach and all areas south of N.C. 211 to N.C. 130, south of Mt. Pisgah Road and Stanbury Road to the Lockwood Folly Inlet; this district will pick up Exum and part of Ash in southwest-ern Brunswick;
District 3: Represented by Gene Pinkerton, 10,168 residents, includes Southport, Oak Island, Varnumtown and areas east of N.C. 211 from Supply, areas south of Town Creek on N.C. 133 and bordered by Funston Road (S.R. 1518) and a transportation railroad line on the east;
District 4: Represented by Frankie Rabon, 10,251 residents, includes areas east of N.C. 211 and north of Town Creek to Jackey's

Creek on N.C. 133, south of Old Town Creek Road (S.R. 1413) and part of N.C. 87 in Winnabow.
District 5: Represented by Donald Shaw, 10,117 residents, includes Leland, Belville and the Malmo communities, north of Jackey's Creek on N.C. 133, all of Northwest Township.
Commissioners must have information to the Brunswick County Board of Elections office by Oct. 1 to be placed on the November ballot, said Clegg.
Holden said commissioners will discuss other non-binding topics to possibly add to the referendum at the next meeting. The board may use the referendum to see what county voters think of non-partisan elections, county zoning and other issues.

Holden Beach Surf Claims Another Victim

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water any time they want to."
Logan said the big breakers restricted the water rescue team search area in the surf boat. "It was extremely tough for them to run close in."
The emergency management coordinator said he called in the water rescue team as soon as he was notified of the possible drowning. The surf boat was on the scene about 30 minutes later.
The drowning occurred in the same area as a July 4 drowning which claimed the life of a 12-year-old boy from Knightdale.
Jaremas Barnes was riding a raft with his cousin and foster brother when he was knocked off by a wave and drowned in the surf near the

1000 block of Ocean Boulevard West. The ocean was extremely rough that day.
"It was almost in the same place as the little boy was in," Logan said of Sunday's drowning. "I don't know if we've got a bad rip tide or what we've got there."
Sgt. Carl Pearson with the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department, who has piloted the county plane during each of the last two searches, said he spotted a rip tide there Monday.
Rip tides are strong, usually narrow, surface currents that flow out from the beach. They are caused by the return flow of waves and wind-driven water.
Pearson said a sandbar located about 300 feet off the beach where

the last two drownings have occurred appears to create a rip tide under certain conditions.
He said most people who visit the beach aren't cautious about hazards such as rip tides. "They don't understand the force of the water."
Pearson, a certified diver who heads up the county dive team, said the easiest way to get out of a rip tide is to swim parallel to the beach.
"If you try to fight against that rip, it will draw you under and leave you there," he said.
Besides the Gateau and Barnes drownings, three Greensboro men drowned off Holden Beach in late May when a fishing boat sank.
Holden Beach is organizing its own water rescue unit in response to the five recent drownings.
Town commissioners voted earlier this month to purchase about \$11,000 in water rescue equipment, including a surf boat, and pay for

training and operating costs for a water rescue team.
A group of 10 area residents will be qualified to use the equipment after completing a water rescue course in late September.
Logan said Monday that the county beaches also need some type of warning system to let residents and visitors know about dangerous ocean conditions.
Guards On Duty
Long Beach lifeguards will no longer be on duty after Sept. 2, the town has announced.
Lifeguards will complete the summer schedule as follows: from Wednesday, Aug. 28, to Monday, Sept. 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
They will not be on duty Monday, Aug. 26, or Tuesday, Aug. 27.

EVACUATION, SHELTERS WEREN'T NEEDED

County Sighs In Relief As Bob Turns North

BY TERRY POPE
Back at their desks Monday morning, county officials were breathing a sigh of relief after Hurricane Bob tracked northward away from the Carolinas.
"It was good to us," said Brenda Freeman of the Brunswick County Emergency Management office.
The county opened its Emergency Operations Center at the government complex in Bolivia around 9:30 a.m. Saturday as officials began monitoring the storm as it headed northeast, gained strength and picked up speed over the Atlantic.
Emergency workers did not go home until 31 hours later, around 4:30 p.m. Sunday, after the eye of the storm had passed about 125 miles east of the Brunswick County coastline.
Saturday was a busy day for vacationers checking into cottages on Brunswick County's beaches. They and their relatives back in their home states were calling the Emergency Management office as well as local rental agencies for hurricane information.
"The phones were popping," said Ms. Freeman. "Some of them, their voices were breaking. They were scared to death."

Winston-Salem for those attending the annual N.C. Association of County Commissioners' convention.
Brunswick County Commissioners Donald Shaw, Kelly Holden and Gene Pinkerton were there along with County Manager David Clegg. The N.C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety set up a command post at the convention to keep commissioners of coastal counties informed of what was happening back at home, said Clegg.
At 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Clegg and Pinkerton decided to return to Brunswick County.
"I just thought it was important to have a quorum of the board here to function if necessary," said Clegg.
As they headed east on Interstate 40, Bob was upgraded to hurricane status. But the 6 p.m. storm coordinates were good news for Cecil Logan, Brunswick County Emergency Management coordinator.
"The way it looks right now, unless I see something different, we may not shelter," said Logan.
The storm began shifting north at about 9 mph. It had been moving northeast toward Brunswick County.
"If it stays on the same track, we'll get mostly rain," said Logan.
Shelter attendants, Red Cross volunteers and emergency fire and rescue volunteers stood on alert in case an evacuation was ordered. However no shelters were opened.
It was only a close call.
Vacationers who had driven hours to reach the beach arrived under a hurricane warning and a tornado watch. Family members back at home were calling trying to locate them.
"People were wanting to know where the shelters were," said Ms. Freeman. "It was sad."

One caller asked Ms. Freeman, "How can you be so calm at a time like this?" The caller said a national cable news network had just aired a report that tens of thousands of vacationers were evacuating the North Carolina coast.
"A lot of calls were from people out of state who knew they had family coming down for the weekend," said Ms. Freeman. "When the news people started giving that information out, I think a lot of people panicked."
The storm was big news in

Beaches Escape Damage From Passing Hurricane

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Hurricane Bob didn't cause any erosion or other problems at Sunset Beach, which usually weathers storms better than most beaches because of its wide strand.
"We just followed our little hurricane plan and it went away," said Town Administrator Linda Fluegel.
Brunswick County Emergency Management Coordinator Cecil Logan estimated Saturday that the occupancy levels at area beaches was 80 percent or higher. Despite the threat, most vacationers decided to stick it out.
Randy Beach of Salt Lake City, who was visiting Sunset Beach with his family, said Saturday that the prospect of cloudy skies and rain didn't bother him. "We listened to

the news frequently and figured they would call us if there was a problem."
The N.C. Division of Emergency Management issued a news release Saturday recommending, as a precaution, that people not visit the coast over the weekend. Bob was still a tropical storm at the time.
"With the unpredictable nature of this storm, it is better to be safe than sorry," said Joe Myers, the state's emergency management director.
Local surfers apparently weren't too worried about their safety Sunday, when waves topped out at 12 feet.
More than 20 surfers were drawn to the waves near Holden Beach Fishing Pier, and at least three had their boards snapped by the pounding surf.

Weather Data Was 'Normal' Despite Hurricane Bob

Hurricane Bob notwithstanding, the South Brunswick Islands saw an "exactly normal" week in terms of temperature averages Aug. 13 through 19.
"Everything was exactly normal, with the exact normal high and exact normal low," said Jackson Canady, a Shallotte Point meteorologist. "We don't get that very often."
He recorded a maximum high of 91 degrees on the 19th and a minimum low of 68 degrees on the 16th.

A daily average high of 89 degrees combined with a nightly average low of 71 degrees for an average daily temperature of 80 degrees.
For the same period, he recorded 1.06 inches of rainfall.
Over the next few days, Canady said area residents can expect both precipitation and temperatures to be near normal.
Temperatures should average from the lower 70s at night into the upper 80s during the daytime, with about three-quarters inch of rainfall.

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THE MITCHELL HOUSE at 232 Hillside Drive, Holden Beach, was leaning toward the ocean before Hurricane Bob passed offshore Sunday. The storm caused some minor erosion near the east end of the island where this cottage is located.

STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG BUTTER