

# Railroad Resources

FOR FIRST RESPONDERS



NORTH CAROLINA  
**RAILROAD**  
C O M P A N Y

# ALWAYS EXPECT A TRAIN...

As North Carolina's urban and rural populations grow, trains and people meet with increasing frequency, making an increase in rail-related accidents an unfortunate reality.

This compilation of general safety procedures and emergency contact information will help identify risks and vulnerabilities and minimize safety hazards along North Carolina's rail corridors.



# TRAINS **CAN'T** STOP QUICKLY

A 100-car freight train traveling 55 mph will need **one mile** to stop. Trains can't stop quickly enough to avoid a collision in most instances.

A typical locomotive weighs approximately 400,000 pounds or 200 tons. When 100 railcars are added, the train can weigh up to 6,000 tons. The weight ratio of a car to a train is proportional to a soda can and an automobile.

*Information from Operation Lifesaver ([www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org))*



# RAIL CORRIDORS ARE PRIVATE PROPERTY

All rail tracks and corridors are considered private property. Anyone walking, jogging, riding bikes, or loitering within the corridor is trespassing. Because trains operate around the clock and travel up to 79 mph, people trespassing can get trapped by or misjudge the distance between themselves and an oncoming train.

**The danger to pedestrians and vehicles is obvious, so the more officers watching the corridor, the safer it will be.**

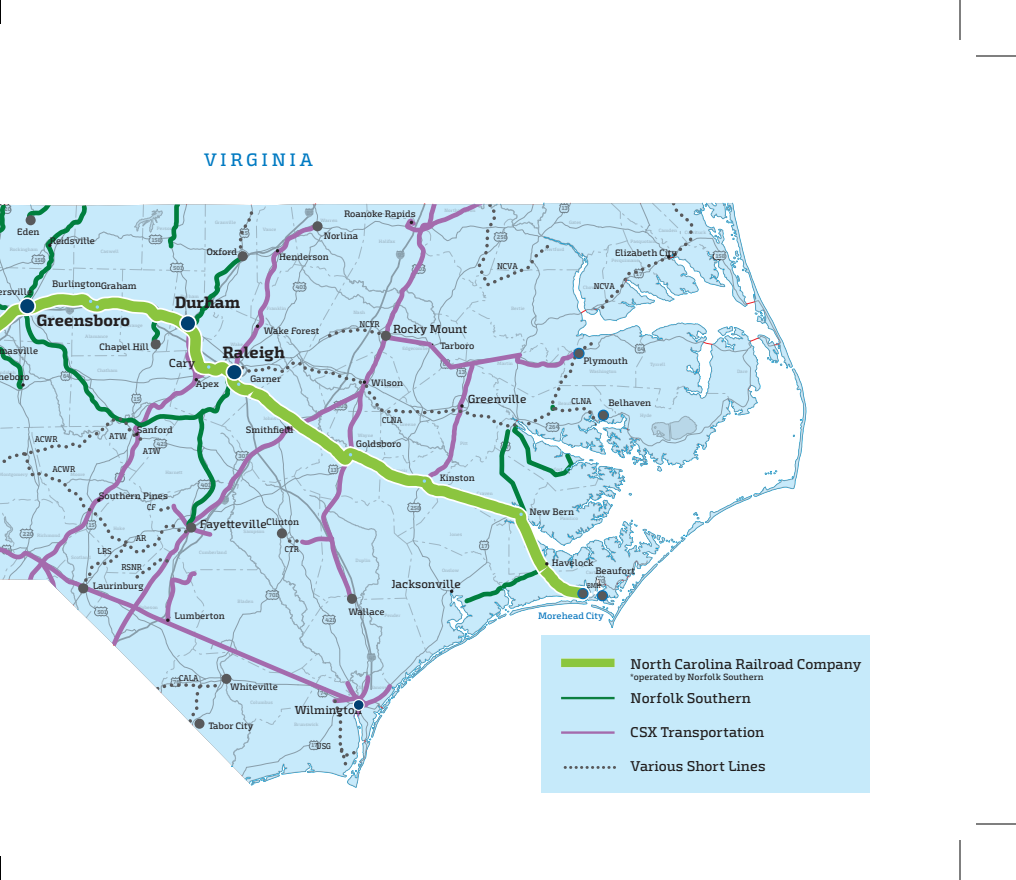


# SAFETY GUIDELINES

- >> Officers should direct anyone walking on railroad tracks or in the corridor to move. **They can be cited for trespassing.** This offense is a Class 3 misdemeanor. (Stat.§ 14-280.1)
- >> Remind pedestrians to look both ways before crossing a track and to never cross if the gates are down or lights are flashing. Tracks should only be crossed at designated locations.
- >> Motorists should always stop when crossing gates are down and/or lights are flashing. If a crossing is not signalized, stop, look, and listen before proceeding through the crossing.
- >> **Take note of the emergency number located on the blue sign at each crossing.** Each is unique to the location and can provide assistance in the case of an accident, stalled car or other emergency.



## NORTH CAROLINA'S **RAIL NETWORK**





# FREIGHT SERVICE

Two Class I railroads, Norfolk Southern and CSX, operate in North Carolina, as do many short line railroads. All first responders should be familiar with which railroads run through their respective areas. (See map on preceding page.)

Norfolk Southern and CSX each have a police force trained in security awareness and corridor protection. They welcome inquiries from local officers on rail matters.



# PASSENGER SERVICE

Amtrak also has officials charged with improving passenger rail safety. Like Norfolk Southern and CSX, Amtrak has uniformed police officers, mobile security teams, and K-9 units. Amtrak uses checked baggage screening, random passenger and carry-on baggage screening, on-board security checks and identification checks to provide security for passengers and the communities they travel through.



**Amtrak encourages everyone to report any suspicious behavior or unattended luggage to Amtrak police or personnel.**

Amtrak stations are located in the following North Carolina cities:

Burlington	Cary	Charlotte	Durham
Fayetteville	Gastonia	Greensboro	Hamlet
High Point	Kannapolis	Raleigh	Rocky Mount
Salisbury	Selma	Southern Pines	Wilson

# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

For Health or Safety Emergencies Call 911 First

At Crossings, Locate the Blue Emergency Sign for the Correct Emergency Number

CSX ..... 800-232-0144  
Norfolk Southern ..... 800-946-4744  
Amtrak ..... 800-331-0008



## RAIL INFORMATION NUMBERS

NCDOT Rail Division ..... 919-707-4700  
North Carolina Railroad Company ..... 919-954-7601  
Railway Association of NC (Short Lines) .... 336-799-4049  
..... 866-528-8189



## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

FOR HEALTH OR SAFETY EMERGENCIES CALL 911 FIRST

**At Crossings, Locate the Blue Emergency Sign  
for the Correct Emergency Number**

CSX ..... 800-232-0144  
Norfolk Southern..... 800-946-4744  
Amtrak..... 800-331-0008

*Provided by the North Carolina Railroad Company  
as a resource for first responders.*

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919-954-7601 | [www.ncrr.com](http://www.ncrr.com)



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