



INTERGOVERNMENTAL WEEKLY UPDATE



FEMA

Joint Field Office, Durham, N.C.
December 13, 2016

FEMA-4285-DR-NC

Time running out to apply for Public Assistance

FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) program provides federal funds to help eligible local, state and tribal governments, and certain private nonprofits pay for debris removal, emergency protective measures and the repair, replacement or restoration of disaster-damaged facilities.

A Request for Public Assistance (RPA) is an applicant's official notification to FEMA of the intent to apply for a PA grant. The request is typically submitted at the Applicants' Briefing, which is conducted by North Carolina Emergency Management for potential PA applicants and addresses application procedures, administration requirements, funding and program eligibility criteria.

Once a request for assistance has been forwarded to FEMA and the applicant is deemed eligible, it is assigned a PA coordinator. The coordinator is a FEMA specialist who serves as the applicant's customer service representative on PA program matters and manages processing of the applicant's projects.

Forty-nine North Carolina counties are eligible for FEMA PA grants in seven categories (A through G), which include grants for reimbursement of emergency costs, and permanent repair or replacement of Hurricane Matthew-damaged infrastructure.

Thirteen counties were designated as eligible for FEMA PA grants A-G on **Nov. 10**.

Those counties had to submit a Request for Public Assistance before the **Dec. 10 deadline**.

An additional 36 counties were designated as eligible for PA grants A-G on **Nov. 20**.

Those counties must submit a Request for Public Assistance before the **Dec. 20 deadline**.

Hurricane Matthew seen from space



A satellite image shows the extent of the area affected by Hurricane Matthew as it swirled over the southeastern United States, including North Carolina, in early October.

Keep FEMA up to date to avoid delays

North Carolina survivors who have registered with FEMA for disaster assistance after Hurricane Matthew are encouraged to stay in touch with the agency to resolve issues, get updates on their applications or provide additional information.

It is especially important for you to update FEMA with any insurance documentation information or settlements. FEMA disaster assistance covers only basic needs and cannot duplicate insurance payments. If you are changing addresses, phone numbers or banking information you should notify FEMA. Incomplete or incorrect information could result in delays in receiving assistance.

To update your status call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 for voice, 711 and Video Relay Service. If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability and use a TTY, call 800-462-7585. You should refer to the nine-digit number you were issued at registration.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362 or TTY at 800-462-7585. FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. Follow FEMA on twitter at @femaregion4. Download the FEMA app with tools and tips to keep you safe before, during, and after disasters.

Intergovernmental Weekly Update December 13, 2016

Private nonprofits urged to apply now for federal help

Private nonprofit organizations in North Carolina may be eligible to receive federal assistance in recovering from losses connected with Hurricane Matthew. FEMA encourages all affected private nonprofits in the 49 counties designated for Public Assistance (PA) grants to apply for aid as soon as possible.

Community, volunteer, faith-based and private nonprofit organizations that had damage from the flooding caused by the hurricane may be able to receive FEMA PA grants or apply for U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest disaster loans to repair or replace their facilities.

The first step is for the applicant to contact the county emergency manager to obtain a Request for Public Assistance (RPA). The emergency manager will be able to answer questions on the application process. The applicant then submits the completed RPA to North Carolina Emergency Management for evaluation before it is forwarded to FEMA for eligibility determination.

Two types of nonprofits may be eligible to apply for Public Assistance.

Critical community service organizations:

Faith-based and private schools
Emergency services (fire/rescue)
Hospitals and other medical treatment facilities
Utilities like water, sewer, electrical systems

Non-critical, essential service organizations:

Community centers
Daycare centers
Disability advocacy and service providers
Homeless shelters and rehabilitation facilities
Libraries, museums and zoos
Performing arts centers
Senior citizen centers

Organizations that provide non-critical, essential services must also apply for a low-interest disaster loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration in addition to submitting an RPA. FEMA may assist with expenses the SBA loan does not cover.

SBA may provide up to \$2 million in the form of low-interest disaster loans.

A loan application is available online at sba.gov/disaster. Or call 800-659-2955. If you use TTY call 800-877-8339.

NORTH CAROLINA BY THE NUMBERS

The following is a snapshot of the recovery effort as of Sunday, Dec. 11, 2016:

- Almost **\$83 million** has been distributed in individuals and household grants, including:
 - ◊ More than **\$57.8 million** has been approved in housing assistance for repairing/rebuilding homes and rental assistance for a temporary place to live.
 - ◊ More than **\$25.1 million** in other needs assistance has been approved to help cover the costs of replacing lost contents, medical, dental and other disaster-related expenses.
- More than **57,000** home inspections have been completed.
- More than **22,000** visits were made to recovery centers by people affected by the disaster.
- More than **77,000** households registered for federal assistance.
- More than **1,700** low-interest disaster loans were approved by the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- More than **\$64.6million** has been approved in low-interest disaster loans by the SBA.
- More than **\$2.25 million** has been obligated for Public Assistance Grants.
- More than **5,700** National Flood Insurance Program claims were made.
- More than **\$64.1 million** has been paid on NFIP claims.

Free tips on rebuilding stronger and safer

As North Carolinians repair or rebuild their homes damaged by the flooding that followed Hurricane Matthew, FEMA and home improvement stores have teamed up to provide free information, tips and literature on making homes stronger and safer.

This week, FEMA mitigation specialists are available in **Lowe's Home Improvement** stores in Robeson, Lenoir and Dare counties from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13 through Saturday, Dec. 17 at these addresses:

5060 Fayetteville Road, Lumberton, NC 28358

4489 Hwy 70 West, Kinston, NC 28504

1500 N. Croatan Hwy, Kill Devil Hills, NC 217948

The specialists will offer home improvement tips along with proven methods to prevent or reduce damage from future disasters, as well as offer tips and techniques for building hazard resistant homes. The specialists will be available at other stores in impacted counties in the future.



FEMA

December 13, 2016

DR-4285-NC

NR 086

NCEM News Desk: (919) 316-7311

FEMA News Desk: (404) 358-2776

News Release

12 Days of Hurricane Matthew Recovery Tips for Survivors

DURHAM, N.C. – Many displaced Hurricane Matthew survivors face a challenging holiday season. Governor Pat McCrory has called a special session of the legislature to address pressing needs. But there is much that survivors and supporters can do to advance the recovery process.

North Carolina Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency suggest the following **12 Days of Hurricane Matthew Recovery Tips** for people who are recovering from the October storm.

- 1. Register with FEMA before the Jan. 9, 2017, deadline.** While not everyone affected by Hurricane Matthew will be eligible for disaster relief, you won't know for sure until you register. Register online at DisasterAssistance.gov, download the [FEMA app](#), or call 800-621-3362 for voice, 711 and Video Relay Service. If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability and use a TTY, call 800-462-7585. The service is available from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Multilingual operators are available.
- 2. If you receive a low-interest disaster loan application from the U.S. Small Business Administration, complete it before the Jan. 9, 2017, deadline to keep the federal assistance process moving.** You do not have to accept a loan. If you do not qualify for the loan, you may be eligible for FEMA grant money.
- 3. Initiate or update a claim with your insurance agent.** Contact your insurance agent to learn what is covered through your homeowner's or renter's plan, as well as flood insurance, if applicable. Be sure to document valuables and other property too damaged to salvage. Provide FEMA with your insurance documentation and provide updates when you receive an insurance settlement. Grants may be available to help with losses not covered by insurance.

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4. **Plan now for long term housing needs.** FEMA's Transitional Sheltering Assistance program, which provides hotel accommodations for survivors unable to live in damaged property, is scheduled to end Jan. 7, 2017. NCHousingSearch.org helps people displaced by Hurricane Matthew locate available, affordable rental housing. Call Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., at 877-428-8844. The FEMA Housing Portal (<https://asd.fema.gov/inter/hportal/home.htm>) is another housing resource.
5. **Learn about options to rebuild stronger at home improvement stores.** FEMA mitigation representatives are available at home improvement stores in many communities to provide information on making homes safer and stronger. For stores near you, visit www.fema.gov/disaster/4285.
6. **Save receipts and keep good records.** Save receipts from all disaster-related repairs. It is important to retain proof of all legitimate expenditures as it could affect eligibility for additional assistance.
7. **Be aware of scams.** Don't let your guard down and suffer another disaster such as identity theft or paying fees for services that are never provided. FEMA does not charge for services nor does it endorse any contractors. Use licensed local contractors with reliable references and require proof of insurance. If you suspect fraud, call the North Carolina consumer hotline at 919-716-6000.
8. **Salvage damaged family treasures.** Damaged family heirlooms, photos and other keepsakes can be among the most heartbreaking discoveries following a major disaster. While some objects can only be rescued with professional care, the Heritage Emergency National Task Force offers [basic guidelines](#) for ways to restore treasures. Likewise, the North Carolina Museum of History shares tips on how to care for [delicate artifacts](#).
9. **Holidays can add to disaster-related stress.** Coping with the aftermath of a disaster can be especially difficult during the holiday season. Suspect stress in children who may complain of stomachaches, nervousness, trouble sleeping or experience bouts of anger. The NC State Extension Service offers tips for [children](#) and [adults](#).
10. **Free legal services are available to flood survivors.** A toll-free legal aid hotline is staffed weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. by volunteer North Carolina lawyers. Advice is available on such topics as home repair contracts, working with contractors, and replacing wills or other legal documents that were lost or severely damaged. Call 800-662-7407 and ask for Disaster Legal Services.

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11. **Volunteer resources may be available for unmet needs.** North Carolina's Long Term Recovery Committees help in connecting resource providers with unmet needs in communities affected by Hurricane Matthew. To request help, or to donate time or resources, visit the North Carolina Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster website at ncvoad.org.
12. **Donate to those who lost essential and familiar possessions.** Contribute through your favorite charity or text your donation to 30306 to aid the North Carolina Disaster Relief Fund for Hurricane Matthew.

Additional details and information are available at FEMA.gov/Disaster/4285.

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Dial 2-1-1 or 888-892-1162 to speak with a trained call specialist about questions you have regarding Hurricane Matthew; the service is free, confidential and available in any language. They can help direct you to resources. Call 5-1-1 or 877-511-4662 for the latest road conditions or check the ReadyNC mobile app, which also has real-time shelter and evacuation information. For updates on Hurricane Matthew impacts and relief efforts, go to ReadyNC.org or follow N.C. Emergency Management on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/ncem) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ncem). People or organizations that want to help ensure North Carolina recovers can visit NCdisasterrelief.org or text NCRecovers to 30306.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private non-profit organizations fund repairs or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. For more information, applicants may contact SBA's Customer Service Center by calling 800-659-2955, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visiting SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/disaster. Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call 800-877-8339.



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Federal Funds Top \$213 Million in Hurricane Matthew Recovery

DURHAM, N.C. – In the nine weeks since President Obama declared a major disaster for North Carolina, federal agencies have provided more than \$213 million in grants, loans and insurance payments to those who had losses resulting from flooding after Hurricane Matthew.

These funds are making it possible for survivors to begin to rebuild their homes and communities as they develop a recovery plan.

FEMA has provided almost \$83 million in grants to more than 27,000 eligible survivors for rental assistance and for repairs to make homes safe and habitable.

The U.S. Small Business Administration has awarded more than \$64.6 million in low-interest disaster loans to more than 1,700 applicants.

FEMA's Public Assistance program has obligated \$2.2 million in grants.

The National Flood Insurance Program has paid \$64.1 million to policyholders who filed claims.

The deadline for registering with FEMA and for applying for a U.S. Small Business Administration loan is Jan. 9, 2017.

How to register with FEMA:

- Online at DisasterAssistance.gov.
- Call the FEMA Helpline at **800-621-3362** for voice, 711 and Video Relay Service. If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability and use a TTY, call **800-462-7585**.
- Download the [FEMA Mobile App and apply](#).

For information on SBA loans:

- Call **800-659-2955** (**800-877-8339** TTY).

(MORE)

Federal Funds Top \$213 Million in Hurricane Matthew Recovery-Page 2

- Homeowners, renters and businesses may visit SBA's secure website <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/> to apply online for a disaster loan.

For more information on North Carolina's recovery, visit fema.gov/disaster/4285 and readync.org. Follow FEMA on Twitter at [@femaregion4](https://twitter.com/femaregion4) and North Carolina Emergency Management [@NCEmergency](https://twitter.com/NCEmergency).

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