

Florida Hurricane Recovery

Oct. 30, 2024

Key Messages

- A mobile Disaster Recovery Center is now open at the Carrabelle Courthouse Annex in Franklin County.
- The Disaster Recovery Center previously located at the South County Regional Park in Charlotte County will reopen in a new location soon. Details will be shared once the new location opens.
- To date, FEMA has approved a total of more than **\$759 million** to help Floridians with losses from Milton, Helene and Debby, including:
 - **\$281.7 million** approved for Hurricane Milton
 - **\$432.3 million** approved for Hurricane Helene
 - **\$45 million** approved for Hurricane Debby
- **12,172** Households for a total of more than **29,763** people are checked in to Transitional Sheltering Assistance hotels and motels.
- **3,445** Blue Roofs have been installed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

FAQ of the Day: I'm a renter. Can I apply for FEMA assistance?

- Yes, renters affected by a disaster may qualify for federal assistance to cover temporary housing and to replace or repair personal items like furniture, appliances, clothing or tools for work.



**Renters With Damage
May Apply For Assistance**



Operation Blue Roof

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is installing fiber-reinforced sheeting to cover damaged roofs until arrangements can be made for permanent repairs to damaged homes across affected Florida communities. The service is free, and the sign-up period has been extended to **Nov. 14**. Florida Residents affected by Hurricane Milton can sign-up at www.bluroof.gov, by calling 888-ROOF-BLU (888-766-3258), or by visiting a Right-of-Entry collection center throughout the affected areas.



FEMA

Salvaging Your Damaged Treasures

- Preservation specialists from the [Heritage Emergency National Task Force](#), co-sponsored by FEMA and the Smithsonian Institution, are in the Manatee and Sarasota Disaster Recovery Centers this week to offer advice about salvaging damaged items such as photos, artwork, textiles and other items.

Disaster Recovery Centers

- Disaster Recovery Centers are open in Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Franklin, Gilchrist, Hernando, Indian River, Madison, Manatee, Martin, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, St. Lucie, Suwanee and Taylor counties. To find center locations go to [fema.gov/drc](https://www.fema.gov/drc) or text “DRC” and a Zip Code to 43362. All centers are accessible to people with disabilities or access and functional needs and are equipped with assistive technology. Some centers may close temporarily for election polling. Announcements will be made. Survivors do **not** need to visit a center to apply for assistance. Survivors are encouraged to apply online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) or by downloading the [FEMA App](#). FEMA does not distribute cash at Disaster Recovery Centers.

Transitional Sheltering Assistance

- FEMA has activated Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) for Floridians displaced by Hurricane Helene or Hurricane Milton in 52 counties and for tribal members of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians. Residents in these counties who have applied for disaster assistance may be eligible to stay temporarily in a hotel or motel paid for by FEMA. Applicants do not need to request TSA. FEMA will notify them of their eligibility through an automated phone call, text message, and/or email. Survivors who have been approved for TSA can find hotel options here: [Transitional Sheltering Assistance \(TSA\)](#)

Serious Needs Assistance

- **Serious Needs Assistance** is money to pay for emergency supplies like water, food, first aid, breast-feeding supplies, infant formula, diapers, personal hygiene items, or fuel for transportation. Serious Needs Assistance is available for survivors who apply during the first 30 days after a disaster is declared. If you don't agree with FEMA's decision, you can appeal by showing why you need FEMA assistance. The decision letter you get from FEMA will have more information about the types of documents you should send. Learn more about [Serious Needs Assistance](#).

U.S. Small Business Administration

- **The U.S. Small Business Administration** (SBA) offers low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, renters, businesses and nonprofit organizations to cover losses not fully compensated by insurance and other sources. Apply online at [SBA.gov/disaster](https://www.sba.gov/disaster). Disaster loan information and application forms can also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955. Three SBA Business Recovery Centers are open. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.

How to Apply for FEMA Assistance

- If you sustained damage or loss from Hurricanes Milton, Helene or Debby, [FEMA may be able to help](#). You may be eligible for financial assistance for displacement, serious needs, temporary lodging, basic home repairs, personal property losses and other uninsured disaster-related expenses.
 - ✓ Quickest way to apply is online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](#).
 - ✓ Or use the [FEMA App](#) for mobile devices.
 - ✓ You can also call the FEMA helpline at **800-621-3362**.
- If you choose to apply by phone, please understand calls to FEMA's helpline are experiencing delays because of the increased volume due to multiple recent disasters.
- 2024 Application deadlines: **Hurricane Debby Nov. 12; Hurricane Helene Nov. 27; Hurricane Milton Dec. 11.**

Additional Resources

- **FDEM Statewide Debris Dashboard:** [Debris Survey Results \(Milton\)](#).
- **Clean & Sanitize:** FEMA may be able to provide up to \$300 in one-time financial assistance to help with cleanup. [Clean and Sanitize Assistance | FEMA.gov](#).
- **Multi-Agency Resource Centers:** Florida Division of Emergency Management and local communities are establishing these centers to assist residents with storm recovery. FEMA specialists are available at most centers.
- **FEMA & Citizenship:** You or a member of your household [must be U.S. citizen, non-U.S. citizen national or qualified non-citizen](#) to apply for FEMA assistance.
- **Be Alert to Fraud:** Con artists and criminals may try to obtain money or steal personal information through fraud or identity theft after disasters. [Be Alert to Fraud After Florida Hurricanes | FEMA.gov](#)
- **FEMA Rumor Response:** Know what's true and what isn't. [Hurricane Rumor Response | FEMA.gov](#)
- [Mental health resources for Floridians](#)
- **For help with cleanup:** Call 833-GET HOPE
- [Tips for Mold Cleanup](#)
- **Florida Division of Emergency Management Updates:** [floridadisaster.org/disaster-updates/storm-updates/](#)
- **Disaster Legal Hotline:** 833-514-2940
- **Crisis Cleanup:** 844-965-1386
- [IRS announces tax relief Milton; various deadlines postponed to 5/1/25, in all of FL | Internal Revenue Service](#)