

Hurricane Idalia Recovery

Oct. 25, 2023

FEMA May Be Able to Help with Personal Property Losses

If you live in Charlotte, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Hillsborough, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Suwannee or Taylor counties and had personal property damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Idalia, FEMA may provide financial assistance under the Other Needs Assistance provision of the Individuals and Households Program. The assistance is intended to meet the basic needs of the household, not to restore all personal property items to a pre-disaster condition. Personal property may include appliances, clothing, room furnishings, essential tools and accessibility items for people with disabilities.

How to Apply for FEMA Assistance

If you sustained loss from Hurricane Idalia and live in **Charlotte, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Hillsborough, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Suwannee** or **Taylor** counties, FEMA may be able to help. You may be eligible for FEMA financial assistance for temporary lodging, basic home repairs, personal property losses and other uninsured disaster-related expenses.

Call toll-free 800-621-3362, go online to DisasterAssistance.gov, download the [FEMA App](#) for mobile devices or visit a Disaster Recovery Center. The telephone line is open every day from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET. Help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service such as VRS, captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service. To view an accessible video on how to apply visit [Three Ways to Apply for FEMA Disaster Assistance - YouTube](#). The deadline to apply is **Nov. 29, 2023**.

Questions About FEMA Assistance?

Visit [Q&A: FEMA Individual Assistance | FEMA.gov](#).

By the Numbers

- **\$71.7 million** in FEMA Individual Assistance approved for **34,429** households
- **\$61 million** in U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans approved
- **\$175 million** in National Flood Insurance Program payments; **5,085** claims filed

FEMA Speaks Your Language

- 1 Press 1 for English
- 2 Press 2 for Spanish



Disaster Recovery Centers

Disaster Recovery Centers provide one-on-one help to people affected by Hurricane Idalia. A video is available: [Disaster Recovery Center \(DRC\): Your Resource After a Hurricane - YouTube](#).

- **Citrus County:** Coastal Region Library, 8619 W Crystal St., Crystal River, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon-Wed, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thurs-Fri, closed Sat-Sun. (closes permanently 5 p.m. Oct. 27)
- **Columbia County:** 180 E Duval St. Lake City, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon-Sat, closed Sunday
- **Dixie County:** Dixie County Public Library, 16328 SE US-19, Cross City, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon-Sat, closed Sunday
- **Hamilton County:** 1153 NW US Hwy 41, Jasper, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mon-Sat, closed Sunday
- **Hernando County:** Hernando Public Library Branch, 9220 Spring Hill Dr., Spring Hill, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon-Sat, closed Sunday
- **Jefferson County:** Jefferson County Library, 375 S Water St., Monticello, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon-Sat, closed Sunday, closes permanently 6 p.m. Nov. 03
- **Lafayette County:** Mayo Community Center, 150 NW Community Cir., Mayo, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, closed Sunday
- **Madison County:** Career Source North Florida, 705 E Base St., Madison, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon-Sat, closed Sunday
- **Pasco County:** Fasano Regional Hurricane Shelter, 11611 Denton Ave., Hudson, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, (closes permanently 6 p.m. Oct. 28)
- **Suwannee County:** Memorial Field, 617 Ontario Ave SW, Live Oak, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon-Sat, closed Sunday
- **Taylor County:** Steinhatchee Community Center, 1013 S. Riverside Dr., Steinhatchee, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon-Sat, closed Sunday

Free Rebuilding Advice

FEMA specialists will be at Liles Ace Hardware, 16608 SE Hwy 19, Cross City, Oct. 12 through Oct. 27 to offer free advice for rebuilding stronger after the hurricane. FEMA Hazard Mitigation personnel will be available 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Low-Interest Disaster Loans

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 using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via the SBA's secure website at [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. Application deadline for physical damage is Oct. 30, 2023, and for economic injury May 31, 2024. SBA is operating Business Recovery Centers at Suwannee County Chamber of Commerce in Live Oak, Entrepreneur Collaborative Center in Tampa and St. Petersburg College-Epicenter in Clearwater.

If FEMA refers you to the SBA, it is important to submit the disaster loan application. If approved, you do not have to accept a loan but failure to submit the application may disqualify you from other possible financial assistance from FEMA and State of Florida.

FEMA Is Hiring in Florida

Come to work for FEMA and help your community recover from recent disasters. FEMA is conducting local hiring for 33 positions in Gainesville and Lake Mary. These positions are full-time, up to 120-day appointments, that may be extended depending on operational needs. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, 18 years of age or older, and possess a high school diploma or GED.

How to apply: Apply online through USAJobs.gov. New positions will be posted as needed. Candidates can be notified when FEMA Local Hire positions post. You can save a search to help you look for jobs in your area of interest. For instructions, please visit: [USAJOBS Help Center | How to save a search](#).

Agriculture Assistance

For Hurricane Idalia assistance, please call the Farm Service Agency Producer Hotline at 877-508-8364, Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. or send an email to the FSA disaster group inbox at SM.FPAC.FSA.FLFSA.Disaster@USDA.GOV. For more information about USDA disaster resources please visit farmers.gov/protection-recovery. USDA Service Centers are designed to be a single location where customers can access the services provided by the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Rural Development. For questions about food safety, call the Meat and Poultry Hotline at 888-674-6854, Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET (English or Spanish) or email MPHotline@usda.gov. Owners of meat and poultry producing businesses may call 877-FSIS-HELP (877-374-7435), email infosource@fsis.usda.gov, or visit fsis.usda.gov/inspection/compliance-guidance/small-very-small-plant-guidance/small-plant-help-desk.

Mold Cleanup

- [Homeowner's and Renter's Guide to Mold Cleanup After Disasters | Mold | CDC](#)
- [Guía del propietario y arrendatario para la limpieza de moho \(hongos\) después de desastres | Mold | CDC](#)

State Housing Assistance

For temporary shelter in travel trailers or hotel rooms, visit floridarecovers.org.