



As Florida's municipalities recover from Hurricane Irma, the League will continue sharing important information as it becomes available. The latest updates from state and partner agencies are below, along with links to helpful resources.

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## Important Information from Governor Scott's Office

The Florida Disaster Fund helps provide financial support to Florida's communities in times of disaster. To make a contribution, please visit [www.FloridaDisasterFund.org](http://www.FloridaDisasterFund.org) or text DISASTER to 20222 to make a one-time donation of \$10.

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- The State of Florida has been awarded the Federal Dislocated Worker Grants to provide temporary employment to Floridians affected by Hurricane Irma. The Dislocated Worker Grants, administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, provides disaster relief employment in the form of temporary jobs that support storm response and recovery efforts. For information regarding National Dislocated Worker Grants, visit your local CareerSource Center at <http://www.careersourceflorida.com/your-local-team>.
  - Tolls will remain suspended on the Homestead Extension of Florida's Turnpike south of the interchange to S.R. 874 (Mile Post 0-17) to assist Monroe County residents with recovery efforts.
  - The Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program has been activated as a result of Hurricane Irma in all of Florida's 67 counties. Applications will be accepted by qualified Florida small businesses under this program through Oct. 31, 2017, contingent on the availability of funds. For more information, click [here](#).

- Residents impacted by Hurricane Irma in counties that are currently not eligible for FEMA assistance are still encouraged to apply in the event these counties are approved at a later date.
- 20 shelters are open throughout Florida. The number will continue to be updated throughout the day. Visit [floridadisaster.org/shelters/summary.aspx](http://floridadisaster.org/shelters/summary.aspx) to find information on shelters in your area.
- National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) flood policyholders may be eligible for reimbursement of actions taken to protect their property. Call your insurance agent to find out more. You can also call 800-621-FEMA (3362) – select option 2 – to learn more about your policy, and be directed to the appropriate claims resource.

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## Private Property Debris Removal (PPDR)

PPDR is generally not eligible for reimbursement under the Public Assistance (PA) Program. (Click [here](#) to view the Fact Sheet) However, when debris on private property is so widespread that it threatens public health and safety or economic recovery of a community, FEMA may provide PA funding for debris removal from private property.

### Approval for PPDR

Due to the magnitude of recent disaster events, FEMA is simplifying the process for PPDR approval. Applicants (i.e. Local Government) must provide a written notice through the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) to FEMA identifying areas where PPDR activities will occur (including identification of gated or ungated communities, orphaned roads, or commercial properties). Once the notice is submitted, the Applicant does not need to wait for FEMA's approval to start work. However, the Applicant must submit its written request for FEMA's approval so that it may receive reimbursement for PPDR work. FEMA may only approve reimbursement based on the Applicant's satisfactory demonstration (including relevant documentation) that the:

- PPDR was in the public interest,
- Applicant has legal authority to perform debris removal activities on private property,
- Applicant agrees to indemnify the Federal Government (including FEMA),
- Applicant obtained and complied with applicable permits or approvals for the locations of temporary debris staging and reduction sites and final debris disposal sites, and
- Applicant has satisfied all legal processes and obtained permission from the property owners (rights-of-entry or other unconditional authorization) and agreements to indemnify and hold harmless the Federal government.

### Additional Resources

- [Debris Removal Quick Guide Public Assistance Projects](#)
- [Debris Removal Tips Fact Sheet](#)
- [Contracting Requirements Checklist](#)
- [Environmental Compliance Criteria](#)

- [EHP Fact Sheet](#)
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## FEMA Individual Assistance Programs

48 counties in Florida are now designated for Individual Assistance. Homeowners and renters in Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Collier, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Lafayette, Lee, Levy, Manatee, Marion, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter, Suwannee, Union, Volusia counties may now apply for federal disaster assistance for uninsured and underinsured damage and losses resulting from Hurricane Irma.

### Individuals and Households Program

- [Housing Assistance](#) provides financial and/or direct assistance to eligible disaster survivors who have necessary expenses and serious needs unmet through other resources, such as insurance.
- [Other Needs Assistance](#) provides financial assistance to individuals and households who have other disaster-related necessary expenses such as medical, childcare, funeral, personal property, and transportation costs. The U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Disaster Assistance Program provides low-interest, long-term loans to those impacted by a declared disaster.

**Crisis Counseling Assistance & Training Program** assists in recovery from the effects of a disaster through community based outreach and psycho-educational services.

**Disaster Case Management** involves creating a Disaster Recovery Plan together with a disaster case manager to reach disaster recovery by meeting unmet needs through available resources.

**Disaster Unemployment Assistance** provides unemployment benefits and re-employment services to individuals who have become unemployed because of the disaster and who are not eligible for regular State unemployment insurance.

**Disaster Legal Services** provides legal assistance to low-income individuals who are unable to secure legal services adequate to meet their disaster related needs.

### How to Apply

- Internet: <https://www.disasterassistance.gov>
- Smartphone: downloading FEMA application through <https://www.fema.gov>
- FEMA Toll-Free Helpline: 800.621.3362
- FEMA Toll-Free Helpline for deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disability: 800.462.7585
- Disaster Recovery Center open for limited periods post-disaster near your community.
- U.S. SBA Disaster Loan Assistance: <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>



## #FLCityShare

#FLCityShare is a social media campaign to encourage cities to share needs, share resources or ask questions and share answers. One by one, posts are popping up offering generators, requesting sandbags, calling for blood donors, sharing tips, borrowing educational images and more.

Cities are helping cities as we unite together in our recovery efforts to rebuild Florida's communities. Please continue to use this as a way to communicate with one another. The League will do its part to retweet and share your messages to expand your audience. The government closest to the people is indeed the most responsive to the people.

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## Helpful Links & Resources

- [Operation Blue Roof](#)
  - [Debris Pick-Up](#)
  - [What to Expect When you Register for FEMA Disaster Assistance](#)
  - [FEMA Teams Canvassing Disaster-Designated Counties to Help Survivors](#)
  - [FEMA Website](#)
  - [Download the FEMA Mobile App](#)
  - [HUD Offering Assistance To Irma-Impacted Communities](#)
  - [Florida Department of Emergency Management](#)
  - [Volunteer Florida](#)
  - [Department of Environmental Protection Resources](#)
  - [Small Business Administration \(SBA\) Loans](#)
  - [Rescheduling of Municipal Millage and Budget Hearings](#)
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Safe Cities, Safe Florida Resource Portal

Connect with us

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