

North Carolina Helene Recovery

Feb. 5, 2025

Key Messages

- More than **153,000** North Carolina families are being helped with financial assistance from FEMA. Additional applications are being received daily. Don't wait. Apply now if you sustained uninsured losses from Tropical Storm Helene.
- USDA One-day Agriculture Recovery Centers are scheduled this week in **Avery** (Feb. 5), **Yancey** (Feb. 6) and **Ashe** (Feb 7) counties. FEMA may be able to help if you lost tools or equipment in the storm, or if your home was damaged.
- **3.9 million** cubic yards of debris have been removed from public rights of way, 2.7 million by state contractors and 1.2 million by federal contractors.



Agriculture Recovery Center in Mitchell County

By the Numbers

- **\$361.6 million** approved for 153,557 households, including money for rent, basic home repairs and other disaster-caused needs.
- **\$348 million** in Public Assistance funding approved to support community recovery.
- **13,235** families have stayed in FEMA-paid hotel rooms.
- **2,777** households have received rental assistance.
- **\$105.4 million** approved by the U.S. Small Business Administration in low-interest disaster loans. Deadline for applications extended to March 8.
- **Temporary housing:**
 - **2,620 households** are using Transitional Sheltering Assistance hotels and motels.
 - **160 households** have been placed in temporary housing units.
- **\$13.9 million** provided to more than 4,000 families for repair or replacement of private-access roads and bridges.
- **\$50.3 million** in federal disaster unemployment benefits have been provided to more than 10,000 applicants.



FEMA

Continued Rental Assistance

FEMA has helped 2,777 applicants with \$8.2 million of rental assistance. Survivors who received initial rental assistance and continue to need help should stay in touch with FEMA. You may be eligible for continued rental assistance learn more at [fema.gov/fact-sheet/fema-provides-continued-rental-assistance-north-carolina](https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/fema-provides-continued-rental-assistance-north-carolina).

Disaster Recovery Centers Can Help

To apply in person or get face-to-face assistance with an application or appeal, visit a Disaster Recovery Center. You can visit any recovery center, even in another state. To find your nearest Disaster Recovery Center, visit [fema.gov/drc](https://www.fema.gov/drc).

Applied for FEMA Assistance? Read Your FEMA Letter Carefully

If you applied for disaster assistance from FEMA, you will receive a letter explaining your application status. If you are not currently approved for assistance, you may need to send additional documentation to FEMA. You can upload documents to [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) or submit them at a Disaster Recovery Center.

Additional Disaster Resources

- The Internal Revenue Service has extended tax filing to May 1, 2025. www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-announces-tax-relief-for-victims-of-hurricane-helene-in-north-carolina-various-deadlines-postponed-to-may-1-2025.
- NC Department of Public Safety Tropical Storm Helene Resources Page: www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/emergency-management/hurricane-helene.
- The Western North Carolina Small Business Initiative is helping small businesses affected by Helene. To learn more, visit appalachiancommunitycapitalcdfi.org/wnscb-grant/.
- United Way's NC 211 is a multilingual, confidential service that provides health and human services information and referrals through a free statewide phone number (2-1-1 or 1-888-892-1162 if calling from an out-of-state area code) and website www.nc211.org. North Carolina State and Local Level Referrals can be found at: www.fema.gov/assistance/individual/disaster-survivors/state-local-referral-lists/north-carolina.
- Survivors who are experiencing stress, emotional fatigue, a mental health crisis or just need someone to talk to can call the Hope4NC Helpline 24/7 at 855-587-3463. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Disaster Distress Helpline is 800-985-5990.