



In Need of Assistance from Hurricanes Irma and Harvey?

Register Online for Disaster Assistance at: www.disasterassistance.gov or call 1-800-621-3362. TTY: 1-800-462-7585

FEMA's Message to Evacuees: You should only return home when local officials say it's OK. Keep in mind #Irma may have ongoing impacts and disruptions to daily activities.

What to do AFTER A STORM:

- **Listen to Local Officials** for updates and instructions.
- **Use Texts or Social Media** to check in with friends and family. Cellphone lines may be overwhelmed or down; in most cases, messaging will still work.
- **Watch Out for Debris and Downed Power Lines.**
- **Photograph the Damage to Your Property** to assist in filing an insurance claim
- **Stay Out of Damaged Buildings and Homes** until local authorities say it's safe.

In response to hurricanes Harvey and Irma, shelters are open in several states, as well as in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. Visit www.usa.gov/hurricane-irma to find local shelter information.

If you are in Florida and do not have a way to evacuate, call the transportation hotline at 1-800-955-5504.

Resources:

- Visit www.ready.gov or www.listo.gov (Spanish) for tips on how to prepare for and stay safe during hurricanes and flooding.
- Download the [FEMA Mobile App](#) to receive alerts from the National Weather Service, get safety and survival tips, customize your emergency checklist, find your local shelter, and upload your disaster photos to help first responders.

How To Help:

To [help people affected by the storm](#), visit www.nvoad.org for a listed of trusted organizations. To help, remember:

- **Cash is best.** Financial contributions to recognized disaster relief organizations are the fastest, most flexible, and most effective method of donating. Organizations on the ground know what items and quantities are needed, often buy in bulk with discounts and, if possible, purchase through area businesses which supports economic recovery.
- **Confirm donations needed.** Critical needs change rapidly – confirm needed items **BEFORE** collecting; pack and label carefully; confirm delivery locations; arrange transportation. Unsolicited goods **NOT** needed burden local organizations' ability to meet survivors' confirmed needs, drawing away valuable volunteer labor, transportation, and warehouse space.
- **Connect to volunteer.** Trusted organizations operating in the affected area know where volunteers are needed, and can ensure appropriate volunteer safety, training, and housing.
- Thank you for your interest in helping the survivors of Hurricane Irma, there are other ways to help. When disaster strikes, America looks to **FEMA** to support survivors and first responders in communities all across the country.
- FEMA is [currently seeking talented and hard-working people to help support the response and recovery.](https://careers.fema.gov/hurricane) (<https://careers.fema.gov/hurricane>)

