

# Florida Hurricane Debby Recovery

Sept. 4, 2024

## Disaster Recovery Center Open in Madison County

FEMA has opened a Disaster Recovery Center in Madison County to provide one-on-one help to those affected by Hurricane Debby. (Details below.)



## Vehicle Repair or Replacement After Hurricane Debby

Floridians impacted by Hurricane Debby may be eligible for FEMA assistance to repair or replace a vehicle. FEMA provides financial help after a disaster for eligible expenses not paid by insurance or other sources. This may include repair or replacement of a vehicle. The damage to the vehicle must have been caused by the disaster and the vehicle must no longer be operable or safe to drive.

## How to Apply for FEMA Assistance

If you sustained damage or losses from Hurricane 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.

Homeowners and renters in **Alachua, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Sarasota, Suwannee** and **Taylor** counties can apply to FEMA in several ways:

### The Best Way to Apply for Disaster Assistance



#### ONLINE

You can apply online 24/7. No waiting, fastest and easiest way to apply. Download the FEMA app or apply directly at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov).

The quickest way to apply is to go online to [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov). You can also apply using the [FEMA App](#) for mobile devices or calling toll-free **800-621-3362**.



The telephone line is open every day and 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 **Oct. 9, 2024**.

To date, FEMA has approved \$23.1 million in assistance to households.

## Understanding Your FEMA Letter

If you applied for FEMA assistance after Hurricane Debby you will receive an eligibility letter from FEMA in the mail or by email. The letter will explain your application status and how to respond. You may need to submit additional information or supporting documentation for FEMA to continue to process an application for financial assistance. If



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you have questions about your letter, or disagree with the initial decision, visit a [Disaster Recovery Center](#) or call the disaster assistance helpline at 800-621-3362 to find out what information FEMA needs.

## Disaster Recovery Centers

- **Columbia County:** 180 E. Duval St, Lake City, FL 32055 (Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day)
- **Dixie County:** Old School Board Building, 841 SE Hwy 349, Old Town, FL 32680 (Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day)
- **Lafayette County:** Mayo Community Center, 150 NW Community Circle, Mayo, FL 32066 (Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day)
- **Levy County:** Chiefland City Hall, 214 East Park Ave., Chiefland, FL 32626 (Open 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday)
- **Madison County:** Madison County, The Bridge Church, 1135 US East 90, Madison, FL 32340 (Open 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday)
- **Manatee County:** Lakewood Ranch Library, 16410 Rangeland Pkwy, Bradenton, FL 34211 (Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day)
- **Sarasota County:** Sarasota Christian Church, 2923 Ashton Rd, Sarasota, FL 34231 (Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday)
- **Suwannee County:** Hale Park, 215 Duval St. NE, Live Oak, FL 32064 (Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day)
- **Taylor County:** Loughridge Park, 1100 W. Hampton Springs Ave, Perry, FL 32347 (Open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday)

## Be Alert to Fraud After Hurricane Debby

FEMA personnel working in areas impacted by Hurricane Debby carry official photo identification. FEMA representatives never charge applicants for disaster assistance, inspections or help in filling out applications. [Their services are free.](#) Don't believe anyone who promises a disaster grant in return for payment. Don't give your banking information to a person claiming to be a FEMA housing inspector. FEMA inspectors are never authorized to collect your personal financial information. If you believe you are the victim of a scam, report it immediately to your local police or sheriff's department or contact Florida's Office of the Attorney General by calling 866-9-NO-SCAM (866-966-7226) or visit [myfloridalegal.com](http://myfloridalegal.com). To file a fraud complaint, go online to Scam Report ([myfloridalegal.com](http://myfloridalegal.com)).

## What Kind of Help Can FEMA Provide?

FEMA assistance does not replace insurance and cannot restore your home to its pre-disaster condition. But FEMA may be able to provide help for uninsured or underinsured costs. File your insurance claim, then apply to FEMA. [FEMA's disaster assistance offers new benefits that provide flexible funding directly to survivors.](#)

## Low-Interest Disaster Loans

The [U.S. Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](https://www.sba.gov) 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**.

The SBA has opened three Business Recovery Centers to meet the needs of businesses that were affected by Hurricane Debby. Locations: Rocky Bluff Library, 6750 US-301, Ellenton, and Yankeetown Town Hall, 6241 Harmony Lane, Yankeetown, and Sarasota Christian Church, 2923 Ashton Rd., Sarasota. SBA has approved \$11.5 million in disaster loans to date.

## Additional Resources

- Disaster Unemployment Assistance is available to Florida businesses and residents whose employment or self-employment was lost or interrupted as a direct result of Hurricane. Eligible Floridians may submit a claim at [FloridaJobs.org](https://www.floridajobs.org).
- [Tips for Mold Cleanup](#)
- **American Red Cross:** Call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767) or visit [Hurricane Debby \(arctgis.com\)](https://www.redcross.org).
- **Activate Hope** connects Floridians with resources for food, household goods, home repairs and more. Request help by applying online at [Hurricane Debby Recovery - Hope Florida](#).
- **Crisis Clean Up:** Call **844-965-1386** to register for assistance with debris.
- **Crisis Counseling:** Call the Substance and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) at **800-985-5990**; for Spanish, press "2").
- **Disaster Legal Aid:** Call **833-514-2940**. Disaster survivors anywhere in the state may call to apply for free civil legal services.



**Mitigation Specialists Now Available**

Mitigation Specialists are available to answer your questions about rebuilding safer and stronger following Hurricane Debby.

- Call: 833-FEMA-4-US (833-336-2487)  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Monday - Friday
- Email: [FEMA-R4-HMHELP@FEMA.DHS.GOV](mailto:FEMA-R4-HMHELP@FEMA.DHS.GOV)

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## [FEMA News Releases and Fact Sheets](#)