



FEMA

Fact Sheet

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FS004
News Desk: 225-382-1599

Online Resources for Survivors

When severe flooding struck Louisiana, leaving thousands of residents looking for assistance, public agencies and private entities created resources and programs designed to help them.

Survivors facing urgent safety issues should call 911. For non-emergency issues and updated news and bulletins, survivors can call the Louisiana 2-1-1 help line or visit <http://www.louisiana211.org/>. For emergency-related news, they can also follow @211Louisiana on Twitter.

LOUISIANA STATE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), <http://gohsep.la.gov/>, contains links to disaster planning guides and situation updates.

FEMA

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's website, www.fema.gov/disaster/4263 has the latest news and information on the disaster in Louisiana. Also, 'like' the FEMA Facebook page, and/or follow @FEMAregion6 on Twitter. Also, www.DisasterAssistance.gov has links to community resources, government directories and alerts.

FOOD ASSISTANCE

www.foodpantries.org/st/louisiana has a statewide food bank database.

GENERAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

The Department of Health and Hospitals is online at <http://dhh.louisiana.gov/>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a page for flood preparedness and response at: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/index.asp> Search for "CDC" on Facebook and follow @CDCEmergency on Twitter.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has a hotline accessible by calling 800-321-OSHA (6742).

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Louisiana Directory of Mental Health Services is online at new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/97/n/116

For children and youth services, call the state health department at 225-342-9500 or visit the Children's Special Health Services website at dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/740 for information or to apply for services for developmentally disabled children.

CHILDREN

Contact your local school district if you have not been able to enroll your child in school in the town where you are currently living, or if you have not been able to return to your home school district.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Louisiana Aging Services administers federal and state-run services for senior citizens. It also oversees the Area Agencies of Aging in each parish, which develop coordinated community-based systems. Visit <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/subhome/12/n/7> or call the Aging and Adult Services Helpline at 866-758-5035.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES OR ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

Louisiana has several agencies that deal with different groups of people who are disabled or have access and functional needs. To learn more, visit the Department of Health and Hospitals online at <http://dhh.louisiana.gov/> or the Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network at <https://latan.org/index.php/programs-services/emergency-preparedness/23-emergency-preparedness/27-emergency-preparedness-program.html>

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences provides documents and resources in English, Spanish and Vietnamese that address emergency preparedness in hurricane and flood situations. Links are at <http://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/index.cfm?id=2472>.

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has a resource page <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/> with fact sheets and information on environmental issues, including disaster debris management.

The Environmental Protection Agency's website, www.epa.gov/, has a section on water issues. Find "EPA" on Facebook, follow @EPAGov on Twitter or call 888-283-7626.

LEGAL SERVICES

Louisiana Legal Services provides free civil legal assistance to low-income residents. Visit them at <http://louisianalawhelp.org/>

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