

Virginia – Severe Storms and Straight-line Winds FEMA-4072-DR

Declared July 27, 2012

On July 20, 2012, Governor Robert F. McDonnell requested a major disaster declaration due to severe storms and straight-line winds during the period of June 29 to July 1, 2012. The Governor requested a declaration for Public Assistance for 47 counties and 15 independent cities, and Hazard Mitigation for the entire commonwealth. During the period of July 10-18, 2012, joint federal, commonwealth, and local government Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) were conducted in the requested counties and are summarized below. PDAs estimate damages immediately after an event and are considered, along with several other factors, in determining whether a disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the commonwealth and the affected local governments, and that Federal assistance is necessary.¹

On July 27, 2012, President Obama declared that a major disaster exists in the Commonwealth of Virginia. This declaration made Public Assistance requested by the Governor available to commonwealth and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe storms and straight-line winds in the counties of Albemarle, Alleghany, Amelia, Amherst, Appomattox, Arlington, Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Bland, Botetourt, Buckingham, Campbell, Carroll, Charlotte, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fauquier, Floyd, Fluvanna, Frederick, Giles, Greene, Halifax, Highland, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Nelson, New Kent, Nottoway, Orange, Page, Pittsylvania, Powhatan, Prince Edward, Pulaski, Rappahannock, Roanoke, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Tazewell, and Warren and the independent cities of Bedford, Charlottesville, Covington, Danville, Fairfax, Fredericksburg, Lexington, Lynchburg, Manassas Park, Martinsville, Radford, Roanoke, Salem, Staunton, and Winchester. This declaration also made Hazard Mitigation Grant Program assistance requested by the Governor available for hazard mitigation measures for all counties and independent cities in the Commonwealth of Virginia.²

Summary of Damage Assessment Information Used in Determining Whether to Declare a Major Disaster

Individual Assistance - (*Not requested*)

- Total Number of Residences Impacted:³ -
 - Destroyed - -
 - Major Damage - -
 - Minor Damage - -
 - Affected - -
- Percentage of insured residences:⁴ -
- Percentage of low income households:⁵ -

- Percentage of elderly households:⁶ -
- Total Individual Assistance cost estimate: N/A

Public Assistance

- Primary Impact: Damage to utilities
- Total Public Assistance cost estimate: \$20,620,205
- Statewide per capita impact:⁷ \$3.44
- Statewide per capita impact indicator:⁸ \$1.35
- Countywide per capita impact: Albemarle County (\$14.18), Alleghany County (\$58.65), Amelia County (\$7.51), Amherst County (\$18.35), Appomattox County (\$10.37), Arlington County (\$3.92), Augusta County (\$13.02), Bath County (\$248.86), Bedford County (\$8.61), Bland County (\$4.90), Botetourt County (\$24.23), Buckingham County (\$6.68), Campbell County (\$5.42), Carroll County (\$8.96), Charlotte County (\$15.82), Clarke County (\$12.87), Craig County (\$39.72), Culpeper County (\$11.52), Cumberland County (\$5.20), Dinwiddie County (\$5.74), Fauquier County (\$8.87), Floyd County (\$15.04), Fluvanna County (\$15.38), Frederick County (\$10.66), Giles County (\$18.04), Greene County (\$20.69), Halifax County (\$3.58), Highland County (\$77.13), Louisa County (\$12.30), Lunenburg County (\$8.91), Madison County (\$35.98), Nelson County (\$48.88), New Kent County (\$10.61), Nottoway County (\$6.18), Orange County (\$14.12), Page County (\$25.40), Pittsylvania County (\$3.95), Powhatan County (\$3.77), Prince Edward County (\$6.12), Pulaski County (\$4.64), Rappahannock County (\$45.63), Roanoke County (\$8.21), Rockbridge County (\$16.81), Rockingham County (\$12.23), Shenandoah County (\$13.22), Tazewell County (\$3.42), Warren County (\$8.24), Bedford (City) (\$16.49), Charlottesville (City) (\$3.90), Covington (City) (\$20.92), Danville (City) (\$10.76), Fairfax (City) (\$10.78), Fredericksburg (City) (\$5.70), Lexington (City) (\$27.36), Lynchburg (City) (\$57.22), Manassas Park (City) (\$4.51), Martinsville (City) (\$6.36), Radford (City) (\$9.43), Roanoke (City) (\$6.75), Salem (City) (\$9.18), Staunton (City) (\$4.18), and Winchester (City) (\$23.41).
- Countywide per capita impact indicator:⁹ \$3.39

¹ The Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) process is a mechanism used to determine the impact and magnitude of damage and resulting needs of individuals, businesses, public sector, and community as a whole. Information collected is used by the State as a basis for the Governor's request for a major disaster or emergency declaration, and by the President in determining a response to the Governor's request (44 CFR § 206.33).

² When a Governor's request for major disaster assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended (Stafford Act) is under review, a number of primary factors are considered to determine whether assistance is warranted. These factors are outlined in FEMA's regulations (44 CFR § 206.48). The President has ultimate discretion and decision making authority to declare major disasters and emergencies under the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5170 and § 5191).

³ Degree of damage to impacted residences:

- Destroyed – total loss of structure, structure is not economically feasible to repair, or complete failure to major structural components (e.g., collapse of basement walls/foundation, walls or roof);
- Major Damage – substantial failure to structural elements of residence (e.g., walls, floors, foundation), or damage that will take more than 30 days to repair;

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- Minor Damage – home is damaged and uninhabitable, but may be made habitable in short period of time with repairs; and
 - Affected – some damage to the structure and contents, but still habitable.

⁴ By law, Federal disaster assistance cannot duplicate insurance coverage (44 CFR § 206.48(b)(5)).

⁵ Special populations, such as low-income, the elderly, or the unemployed may indicate a greater need for assistance (44 CFR § 206.48(b)(3)).

⁶ Ibid (44 CFR § 206.48(b)(3)).

⁷ Based on State population in the 2010 Census.

⁸ Statewide Per Capita Impact Indicator for FY12, *Federal Register*, October 1, 2011.

⁹ Countywide Per Capita Impact Indicator for FY12, *Federal Register*, October 1, 2011.