Disaster Recovery Centers Opening to Help Hurricane Ian Survivors

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COLUMBIA, S.C. – Disaster Recovery Centers have opened in Georgetown and Horry counties to help South Carolina residents affected by Hurricane Ian apply for assistance.

Every attempt is made to locate recovery centers in areas as close as practicable to communities impacted by Hurricane Ian, so each center is conveniently available to survivors.

The Horry center opened Thursday and the center in Georgetown County is scheduled to open Friday morning. A third recovery center is scheduled to open **Monday, Dec. 5**, in Charleston County. The centers are staffed with highly trained FEMA personnel as well as representatives from South Carolina state agencies and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

HORRY COUNTY

Carolina Forest Recreation Center, Multipurpose Room B

2254 Carolina Forest Blvd.

Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

Opened: 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1

Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to noon Saturday; closed Sunday

GEORGETOWN COUNTY

Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center



83 Duncan Ave.

Pawleys Island, SC 29585

Opens: 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2

Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to noon Saturday; closed

Sunday

CHARLESTON COUNTY

North Charleston Public Works

5800 Casper Padgett Way

North Charleston, SC 29406

Opens: 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5

Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to noon Saturday; closed Sunday

Specialists at the recovery centers can help you update your FEMA applications and learn about state and community programs and other available assistance. They can clarify information you have received from FEMA or other agencies; they can explain the rental assistance available to homeowners and renters; and they can fax your requested documents to a FEMA processing center and scan or copy new information or documents needed for case files.

Hurricane Ian survivors are encouraged to apply to FEMA for federal assistance **before** visiting a Disaster Recovery Center. Here are other ways to apply:

- Visit DisasterAssistance.gov;
- Use the FEMA mobile app; or



- Call the **FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362.** Help is available in many languages. If you use video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service. Helpline operators speak many languages and lines are open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Press 2 for Spanish. Press 3 for an interpreter who speaks your language.
- For an accessible video on how to apply, go to youtube.com/watch?v=WZGpWI2RCNw.

Disaster Recovery Centers are also accessible to people with disabilities. They have assistive technology equipment that allows disaster survivors to interact with staff. Video Remote Interpreting is available and in-person sign language is available by request. The centers also have accessible parking, ramps and restrooms.

In addition to the recovery centers, FEMA disaster survivor assistance teams are canvassing neighborhoods in areas impacted by Hurricane Ian to help residents apply for assistance and answer questions about federal assistance. These FEMA specialists wear FEMA attire and have federal photo identification badges. There is no charge for the service.

For the latest information on South Carolina's recovery from Hurricane Ian, visit <u>FEMA.gov/disaster/4677</u>. You may also follow <u>https://twitter.com/SCEMD</u> or <u>FEMA Region 4; @FEMARegion4/Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook.com/FEMA</u>.

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FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency or economic status. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, call the Civil Rights Resource line at 833-285-7448.

