

Hurricane Idalia Recovery: Community Resources for West Florida

Below are community and state resources for people recovering from Hurricane Idalia
Please refer back to this document as information changes.

If you need help with this list or understanding what resources are available in your community, please call our **Florida Blue Center community specialists**. We can help with community and social services like food programs, transportation services, financial and housing assistance programs, community support resources, and many other types of relief programs.

We're ready to help members and everyone in the community. Visit one of our local [Florida Blue Centers](#) or call 1-877-352-5830, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. or Saturday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Resources West Florida Region

Here are important resources for North Florida residents:

- [FEMA](#)
- [American Red Cross – Central Florida Region](#)
- [Ready.gov](#)
- [CDC: Natural Disasters and Severe Weather](#)
- [Meal on Wheels – Find a Provider](#)
- [United Way of Central Florida 211](#)
- [Heart of Florida United Way 211](#)
- [Goodwill – Central Florida](#)
- [Florida Disaster](#)

Crisis Cleanup

If you need assistance with hurricane damage, call the **Crisis Cleanup Hotline** at 1-800-451-1954. You will be connected to volunteers from local relief organizations, community groups and faith communities.

Mental Health Resources

Call or text the [Disaster Distress Helpline](#) at **1-800-985-5990**. The national hotline provides free 24/7, crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any natural or human-caused disaster.

Family Resource Support Center **1-850-300-HOPE (4673)** to speak to a Hope Navigator.

- The Family Resource Support Center serves as a central hub for the community to access needed resources and supports. The center has staff on site, including Hope Navigators, behavioral health partners who specialize in disaster recovery response, and public benefit eligibility specialists to help individuals and families. The Department will continue to work with local organizations and partners across the

state to expand the array of resources that are available to help meet the needs of impacted families.

Hillsborough County Resources

Here are some important links for Hillsborough County:

- [After the Storm Debris Clean-up](#)
- [Evacuation Shelters](#)
- [Food Pantry](#)
- [Special Needs Emergency Registry](#)
- [Disaster Assistance](#)
- Emergency Management: **813-272-6600**

Pinellas County Resources

Here are some important links for Pinellas County:

- [After the Storm Debris Clean-up](#)
- [Evacuation Shelters](#)
- [Food Pantries](#)
- [Sandbag Locations](#)
- [Special Needs Emergency Registry](#)
- [Disaster Assistance](#)

Lee County Resources

Here are some important links for Lee County:

- [Evacuation Shelter](#)
- [Sandbag Locations](#)
- [After the Storm](#)
- [Food Pantries](#)



Get Connected. Get Help.™

Call: 211

Text: Your zip code to 898211

Chat: [online here](#)

United Way's 2-1-1 is Central Florida's 24/7/365 information and assistance hotline during natural disasters, and throughout the year, for connecting with community resources, like:

- Shelter information and housing assistance
- Sandbags, tarps and other storm supplies
- Evacuation routes and road closures
- Food, clothing and hygiene locations
- Special needs registry and medical supplies
- Emotional and crisis support

To search for resources in your area using our online database, visit UW211Help.org.

After Storm Resources Information

Emergency food pantry locations

Phone: 407-295-1066

Website: [Feed Hope Now](#)

Red Cross Shelters

Phone: 407-894-4141 (local) or 800-733-2767 (Toll Free National)

Website: [Red Cross: Find an open shelter](#)

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency

Apply for assistance: DisasterAssistance.gov

Phone: 800-621-3362

Website: FEMA.gov

Twitter: [@FEMA](#)

Utility Service Provider: Florida Public Service Commission

Program provides an [online locator tool](#) for public, private and city utility providers.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to staff our state's shelters and support other disaster relief organizations.

- Heart of Florida United Way – Disaster Response Team. [Sign up here.](#)
- Volunteer Florida – Disaster Action Team Responders, Disaster Mental Health Services, and Food Banks. [Sign up here.](#)

Disaster Distress Helpline

Provides 24/7, 365-day-a-year crisis counseling and support to people experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters. **Call 800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs.**

Florida Hurricane Resources

Florida Disaster State Emergency Response Team (SERT)

Website: FloridaDisaster.org

Phone: 1-800-342-3557

Twitter: [@FLsert](#)

Facebook: [@FloridaSERT](#)

Alerts: Text **FLPrepares** to 888777 to have alerts sent straight to your phone

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency

Phone: 1-800-621-3362

Website: FEMA.gov

Twitter: [@FEMA](#)

Florida Special Needs Registry

Website: FloridaDisaster.org/snr/

Phone: 800-374-9689

Special needs by county: FloridaDisaster.org/disability/specialneeds

Additional Resources

5-1-1

Contact 5-1-1 for information about traffic and evacuation routes.

Call: 5-1-1

Website: fl511.com

Twitter [@fl511_central](https://twitter.com/fl511_central)

Text alerts: fl511.com/personalizedservices

App: [Find here](#)

GasBuddy

Check GasBuddy for live updates on fuel availability

App: GasBuddy.com/app

Price Gouging Hotline

Report instances of price gouging on hurricane supplies

Phone: 1-866-966-7226

Ready.Gov

Step-by-step plan on how to prepare from days to hours before a hurricane: Ready.gov/hurricanes