



October 1, 2016
DR-4280-FL NR 002
State News Desk: (850) 921-0217
FEMA News Desk: (770) 220-5226

News Release

FEMA Public Assistance Extended in Eight Florida Counties Hit by Hermine

Atlanta – The Federal Emergency Management Agency has extended federal disaster aid in eight Florida counties to help the state, local and tribal governments and certain private nonprofits cover disaster-related expenses and the repair or rebuilding of critical infrastructure.

The state, local and tribal governments and certain private nonprofits in **Alachua, Baker, Gilchrist, Manatee, Marion, Sarasota, Sumter, and Union counties** can now request funding through FEMA's Public Assistance grant program to help pay for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair or rebuilding of roads, bridges, water control facilities, buildings, equipment, utilities, parks and recreational facilities.

Citrus, Dixie, Franklin, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Pasco, Pinellas, Suwannee, Taylor, and Wakulla counties were previously designated for FEMA Public Assistance funding.

"The additional federal infrastructure funding is intended to help Florida's hard-hit communities recover from the devastation left by Hurricane Hermine," said Federal Coordinating Officer Terry L. Quarles.

Assistance for Individuals and Businesses

Individuals and businesses in Citrus, Dixie, Hernando, Hillsborough, Leon, Levy, Pasco, and Pinellas counties can begin the disaster assistance process by registering online at DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling **800-621-3362**, which is video relay service accessible.

Survivors who are deaf, hard of hearing or who have difficulty speaking may call **TTY 800-462-7585**. Helpline hours are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. local time, seven days a week until further notice.

Disaster assistance may include money to help pay for temporary housing and essential home repairs. Low-interest SBA loans may also be available for losses not covered by insurance or other sources.

###

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.

FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

###