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FEMA News Desk: (770) 220-5226

News Release

Two South Carolina Counties Now Designated for Individual Assistance

ATLANTA – Homeowners, renters and business owners in Marion and Orangeburg counties may apply for federal disaster assistance for Hurricane Matthew damages and losses in South Carolina.

To be eligible for federal aid under FEMA's Individual Assistance Program, storm damage and losses from the hurricane and flooding must have occurred, as a result of Hurricane Matthew, beginning on October 4.

Survivors are encouraged to register with FEMA as soon as possible. If you have phone and/or internet access, you may register:

- Online at DisasterAssistance.gov, or
- On the [FEMA Mobile App](#), or by
- Calling **800-621-3362 (FEMA)**. Applicants who use **711** or Video Relay Service may also call **800-621-3362**. People who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability and use a **TTY** may call **800-462-7585**.
- The toll-free numbers are open from **7 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week**.
- Multilingual operators are available.

For those who do not have access to telephone or internet service, don't be discouraged. Disaster survivor assistance specialists will soon be helping people register for assistance. Additionally, disaster recovery centers are planned to open in the near future in impacted counties.

Assistance for eligible survivors can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, and for other serious disaster-related needs, such as medical and dental expenses or funeral and burial costs. Long-term, low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) also may be available to cover losses not fully compensated by insurance and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations.

Survivors should contact their insurance company to file their insurance claim. FEMA is unable to duplicate insurance payments. However, those without insurance or those who may be underinsured may still receive help after their insurance claims have been settled.

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*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 **800-621-3362** or TTY at **800-462-7585**.*

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. Follow FEMA on twitter at [@femaregion4](#). Download the FEMA app with tools and tips to keep you safe before, during, and after disasters.

*Dial **2-1-1** to speak with a trained call specialist about questions you have regarding Hurricane Matthew; the service is free, confidential and available in any language. They can help direct you to resources. Call **5-1-1** for the latest road conditions.*

*The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private non-profit organizations fund repairs or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. For more information, applicants may contact SBA's Customer Service Center by calling **(800) 659-2955**, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visiting SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/disaster. Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call **(800) 877-8339**.*