



COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

The Board of County Commissioners meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in the Columbia County School Board Administrative Complex Auditorium, 372 West Duval Street, Lake City, Florida 32055. The first meeting of every month is at 9:30AM while the second meeting of every month takes place at 5:30PM. All agenda items are due in the Board's office one week prior to the meeting date.

Today's Date: 10/9/2023 Meeting Date: 10/19/2023

Name: Shayne Morgan Department: Emergency Management

1. Nature and purpose of agenda item:

Columbia County IA and Recovery Resources

2. Recommended Motion/Action:

Approve

3. Fiscal impact on current budget.

This item has no effect on the current budget.

Hurricane Idalia Recovery

Oct. 4, 2023

Farmer Recovery Centers to Open

Two Farmer Recovery Centers will provide information about assistance for agricultural interests after Hurricane Idalia. On Thursday, Oct. 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., a Farmer Recovery Center will operate at the UF/IFAS Suwannee County Extension Building, 1302 11 St. SW in Live Oak. On Wednesday, Oct. 11, from 9 a.m. to noon, a Farmer Recovery Center will be open at the Dixie County Public Library, 16328 SE US-19 in Cross City. At these centers you can learn about disaster assistance programs available for farmers. You can meet with representatives from USDA Farm Service Agency, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Rural Development and U.S. Small Business Administration.

How to Apply for FEMA Assistance

If you sustained loss from Hurricane Idalia and live in **Charlotte, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Hillsborough, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Suwannee or Taylor** counties, FEMA may be able to help. You may be eligible for FEMA financial assistance for temporary lodging, basic home repairs, personal property losses and other uninsured disaster-related expenses.

Call toll-free 800-621-3362, go online to DisasterAssistance.gov, download the [FEMA App](#) for mobile devices or visit a Disaster Recovery Center. The telephone line is open every day from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET. Help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service such as VRS, captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service. To view an accessible video on how to apply visit [Three Ways to Apply for FEMA Disaster Assistance - YouTube](#). The deadline to apply is Oct. 30, 2023.

Don't Wait. Clean Up As Soon As Possible

Residents with home damage after Hurricane Idalia do not need to wait for a FEMA inspection or flood insurance claim inspection to beginning cleaning up. If the home needs a blue tarp to prevent further damage, install the tarp as quickly as possible. FEMA will let you know if a home inspection is necessary and you can provide photos or videos of interior and exterior damage. FEMA may be able to provide financial assistance for removal of debris or trees only if they affect the habitability of the home or block access to the home. Before starting any structural work, be sure to get a building permit from your local building authorities.



FEMA



Questions About FEMA Assistance?

Visit [Q&A: FEMA Individual Assistance | FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov/individual-assistance).

By the Numbers

- **\$63 million** in FEMA Individual Assistance approved for **31,281** households
- **\$44.1 million** in U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans approved
- **\$53.9 million** in National Flood Insurance Program payments; **4,886** claims filed

FEMA Speaks Your Language

- 1 Press 1 for English
- 2 Press 2 for Spanish



Disaster Recovery Centers

Disaster Recovery Centers provide one-on-one help to people affected by Hurricane Idalia. A video is available:

[Disaster Recovery Center \(DRC\): Your Resource After a Hurricane - YouTube](#).

- **Citrus County:** West Citrus Community Center, 8940 W Veterans Dr., Homosassa, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon–Sat, closed Sunday (closes permanently 6 p.m. Oct 7)
- **Columbia County:** 180 E Duval St. Lake City, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon–Sat, closed Sunday
- **Dixie County:** Dixie County Public Library, 16328 SE US-19, Cross City, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mon–Sat, closed Sunday
- **Hamilton County:** 1153 NW US Hwy 41, Jasper, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mon–Sat, closed Sunday
- **Hernando County:** Hernando Public Library Branch, 9220 Spring Hill Dr. Spring Hill, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon–Sat, closed Sunday (effective Oct. 9, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon–Sat, closed Sunday)
- **Jefferson County:** Jefferson County Library, 375 S Water St., Monticello, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon–Sat, closed Sunday
- **Lafayette County:** Mayo Community Center, 150 NW Community Cir., Mayo, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily
- **Levy County:** Inglis Community Center, 137 Hwy 40 W, Inglis, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (closing permanently 6 p.m. Oct. 5)
- **Madison County:** Career Source North Florida, 705 E Base St., Madison, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily
- **Manatee County:** Rubonia Community Center, 1309 72nd St. E, Palmetto, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily
- **Pasco County:** Fasano Regional Hurricane Shelter, 11611 Denton Ave., Hudson, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily
- **Pinellas County:** Palm Harbor CSA, 1500 16th St., Palm Harbor, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily
- **Pinellas County:** Enoch Davis Center, 1111 18th Ave. South, St. Petersburg, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily
- **Suwannee County:** Agricultural Coliseum Exhibition Building 2, 1302 SW 11 St., Live Oak, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily
- **Taylor County:** Steinhatchee Community Center, 1013 S. Riverside Dr., Steinhatchee, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon–Sat, closed Sunday (effective Oct. 9, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon–Sat, closed Sunday)

Nationwide Alert System Test Today

FEMA, in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), will conduct a [nationwide test](#) of the [Emergency Alert System](#) (EAS) and [Wireless Emergency Alerts](#) (WEA) today at 2:20 p.m. ET. The national test will consist of two portions, for mobile devices and broadcast stations. On mobile devices the test message will display in either English or in Spanish, depending on the language settings of the wireless handset.

Low-Interest Disaster Loans

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) offers [low-interest disaster loans](#) for homeowners, renters, businesses and nonprofit organizations to cover losses not fully compensated by insurance and other sources. Apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via the SBA's secure website at DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov/ela/s/. Disaster loan information and application forms can also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955. Application deadline for physical damage is Oct. 30, 2023, and for economic injury May 31, 2024. SBA is operating Business Recovery Centers at Suwannee County Chamber of Commerce in Live Oak, Entrepreneur Center in Tampa and Northpointe Village in Lutz (closes Oct. 4 at 6 p.m.)

If FEMA refers you to the SBA, it is important to submit the disaster loan application. If approved, you do not have to accept a loan but failure to submit the application may disqualify you from other possible financial assistance from FEMA and State of Florida.

Substantial Damage Determinations

Local community officials are required to inspect disaster-damaged structures in the Special Flood Hazard Area to meet the requirements of the Florida Building Code and the community's floodplain management regulations. If the cost of repairing the structure to its pre-disaster condition before Hurricane Idalia is 50 percent or more than its pre-disaster market value, the structure is considered "substantially damaged." Options include floodproofing a non-residential structure, relocating the structure outside the floodplain, elevating the structure to a height determined by local community officials, or demolishing the structure. FEMA does not make substantial damage determinations; the determination is made by a community's building official or floodplain manager.

Agriculture Assistance

For Hurricane Idalia assistance, please call the Farm Service Agency Producer Hotline at 877-508-8364, Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. or send an email to the FSA disaster group inbox at SM.FPAC.FSA.FLFSADisaster@USDA.GOV. For more information about USDA disaster resources please visit farmers.gov/protection-recovery. USDA Service Centers are designed to be a single location where customers can access the services provided by the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Rural Development. For questions about food safety, call the Meat and Poultry Hotline at 888-674-6854, Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET (English or Spanish) or email MPHotline@usda.gov. Owners of meat and poultry producing businesses may call 877-FSIS-HELP (877-374-7435), email infosource@fsis.usda.gov, or visit fsis.usda.gov/inspection/compliance-guidance/small-very-small-plant-guidance/small-plant-help-desk.

Mold Cleanup

- [Homeowner's and Renter's Guide to Mold Cleanup After Disasters | Mold | CDC](#)
- [Guía del propietario y arrendatario para la limpieza de moho \(hongos\) después de desastres | Mold | CDC](#)

State Housing Assistance

For temporary shelter in travel trailers or hotel rooms, visit floridarecovers.org.

Don't Wait to Begin Cleaning, Making Repairs

Residents with home damage after Hurricane Idalia do not need to wait for a FEMA home inspection or flood insurance claim inspection to begin cleaning up. Typically, after a survivor applies for disaster assistance, they will be contacted by a FEMA inspector within a few days to schedule an appointment. Before starting any structural work, be sure to get a building permit from your local building authorities.

BEFORE CLEANING UP

- Take photos of damage before you begin the clean-up process. Be sure to include photos or videos of the outside and inside of the building, including damaged personal property, and label them by room before you remove anything.
- Photograph the make, model and serial number for appliances such as washers, dryers, hot water heaters, kitchen appliances, TVs and computers.
- Save all repair receipts.
- If you have insurance, separate damaged items from undamaged items. The insurance adjuster may need to document damaged items when conducting an inspection.
- If possible, keep samples of carpet, flooring, wallpaper and drapes.
- After taking photos, immediately throw away flood-damaged items that pose a health risk after coming into contact with flood waters, such as perishable food, clothing, cushions and pillows.

WHEN SALVAGING AND CLEANING UP FLOOD DAMAGED PROPERTY

- Always wear protective clothing. This includes long-sleeved shirts, long pants, rubber or plastic gloves and waterproof boots or shoes.
- If the home needs a blue tarp to prevent further damage, install the tarp as quickly as possible.
- Take wet items outside. Your home could be contaminated with mold, which may raise the health risk for those with asthma, allergies and breathing conditions. For detailed tips on cleaning mold safely, visit the Centers for Disease Control's site at [Homeowner's and Renter's Guide to Mold Cleanup After Disasters | Mold | CDC](#)
- Clean all hard surfaces and items with bleach. If possible, wash wet fabrics in hot water.
- Use caution when entering your home. Before entering your residence, look around the outside for damaged power lines, gas lines and other structural damage. If able, open doors and windows so your house can air out before spending any length of time inside.
- Watch for sharp objects such as protruding nails and screws, aluminum, and broken glass.
- Turn off main electrical power and water systems. Don't use gas appliances until a professional can inspect them.



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- Check all ceilings and floors for signs of sagging or other potentially dangerous structural damage. Remove all drywall and insulation that has been in contact with flood waters.
- Throw out any items that cannot be cleaned. This includes items like mattresses, carpeting and stuffed animals that absorb water and cannot be cleaned or disinfected.

For the latest information on Florida's recovery from Hurricane Idalia, visit floridadisaster.org/updates/ and fema.gov/disaster/4734. Follow FEMA on X, formerly known as Twitter, at twitter.com/femaregion4 and at facebook.com/fema.

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No espere para comenzar a limpiar, hacer reparaciones

Los residentes con daños en tras paso del huracán Idalia no tienen que esperar la visita de la Agencia Federal para el Manejo de Emergencias (FEMA, por sus siglas en inglés) o de su compañía de seguros para comenzar a limpiar y hacer reparaciones. Por lo general, después que un sobreviviente solicita asistencia por desastre, serán contactados por un inspector de FEMA dentro de unos pocos días para programar una cita. Antes de iniciar cualquier trabajo estructural, asegúrese de obtener un permiso de construcción de las autoridades locales de construcción.

ANTES DE LIMPIAR

- Tome fotos de los daños antes de comenzar el proceso de limpieza. Asegúrese de incluir fotos o videos del exterior y del interior del edificio, incluida la propiedad personal dañada, y marque las fotos y videos con una etiqueta que indica el cuarto antes de sacar cualquier cosa.
- Tome fotos de la marca, el modelo y el número de serie de los electrodomésticos como las lavadoras de ropa, secadoras de ropa, calentadores de agua, electrodomésticos de cocina, televisores y computadoras.
- Conserve todos los recibos de reparaciones.
- Si tiene seguro, debe separar los artículos dañados de los artículos no dañados. El ajustador de seguros podría tener que documentar los artículos dañados cuando realiza la inspección.
- Si es posible, guarde muestras de toda alfombra, revestimiento para pisos, papel tapiz y cortina.
- Después de tomar las fotos, deseche de inmediato los artículos dañados por inundación que representan un riesgo de salud luego del contacto con las aguas de inundación, tales como los alimentos perecederos, la ropa, los cojines y las almohadas.

CUANDO ESTÁ RESCATANDO Y LIMPIANDO LA PROPIEDAD DAÑADA POR INUNDACIÓN

- Siempre use ropa protectora. Esto incluye camisas de manga larga, pantalones largos, guantes de goma o plástico y botas o zapatos impermeables.
- Si la vivienda necesita un toldo azul para evitar daños mayores, instale el toldo lo antes posible.
- Lleve los artículos húmedos afuera. Su hogar podría estar contaminado con moho, lo que podría aumentar el riesgo de salud para personas con asma, alergias y condiciones respiratorias. Para consejos detallados sobre cómo limpiar el moho de manera segura, visite la página web del Centro para el Control y Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC, por sus siglas en inglés) en [Guía del propietario y arrendatario para la limpieza de moho \(hongos\) después de desastres.](#)
- Limpie todas las superficies y artículos duros con cloro. Si es posible, lave las telas húmedas con agua caliente.



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- Tenga cuidado cuanto entra a su hogar. Antes de entrar a la residencia, busque alrededor del exterior para verificar que no haya líneas eléctricas o líneas de gas dañadas u otros daños estructurales. Si puede, abra las puertas y las ventanas para ventilar la casa antes de pasar un tiempo extendido adentro.
- Tenga cuidado de objetos puntiagudos, tales como clavos y tornillos protuberantes, aluminio y vidrio roto.
- Apague los sistemas principales del servicio eléctrico y del agua. No utilice los enseres de gas hasta que un profesional los haya inspeccionado.
- Verifique todos los techos y pisos por señales de caída u otros daños estructurales potencialmente peligrosos. Remueva cualquier masilla y material de aislamiento térmico que haya estado en contacto con aguas de inundación.
- Bote cualquier artículo que no se pueda limpiar. Esto incluye artículos como colchones, alfombras y peluches que absorben agua y no se pueden limpiar o desinfectar.

Para información actualizada sobre la recuperación de Florida tras el huracán Idalia, visite floridadisaster.org/updates/ y fema.gov/es/disaster/4734. Siga a FEMA en X, conocida anteriormente como Twitter, en twitter.com/femaregion4 y en facebook.com/FEMAespanol.

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