

Apply For Help

To seek disaster assistance, visit the websites listed below and stay connected with the authorities to stay informed about updates. These websites provide helpful resources for hurricane recovery. Contact the City Building Department for information on construction projects requiring permits. Stay vigilant against contractor scams after disasters. Do not pay contractors in cash and check if their license is valid by visiting myfloridalicense.com and searching "verify license."

1. For individual and household programs and transition shelters visit FEMA at disasterassistance.gov.
2. For a home or personal property loan visit the Small Business Administration at sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance.
3. For mortgage assistance for disaster victims, visit fhfa.gov/ and search for mortgage assistance.
4. For Title I property improvement loans, visit hud.gov/ and search "Title I."
5. For a small business emergency bridge loan, visit floridajobs.org/ and search "emergency bridge loan."
6. For public assistance visit floridapa.org.
7. For disaster relief resources visit floridahousing.org and search "disaster relief."

After the Storm

Be prepared to be self-sufficient for seven days, as recommended by the Florida Department of Emergency Management. Watch out for potential dangers such as live power lines, gas leaks, fallen tree branches, flooding, damaged roads, and hazardous wildlife. Refrain from unnecessary sightseeing to allow emergency personnel to reach those in need. When driving, yield to emergency vehicles and if changing lanes is unsafe, slow down when passing. If you need mental health resources, dial 211 to connect with a live person. Support for mental well-being is accessible during this challenging period and seeking assistance from a professional or loved one can help alleviate stress. If City Hall is damaged an alternate work location will be chosen. Call 941-486-2626. Check social media frequently for updates from the City by visiting facebook.com/CityofVeniceFlorida.

Contact



venicegov.com



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What to Do Before and After a Hurricane



Before a Hurricane

Hurricane season in Florida runs from June 1 to Nov. 30. It is recommended to stock up on supplies before the season begins, as stores often sell out quickly when a storm is approaching. Ensure you have enough supplies for all household members, including pets.

For detailed information on hurricane preparedness, visit venicegov.com and search "hurricane guide." Prepare an evacuation plan since evacuation centers fill up quickly. Pack only essential items and go to a center as a last resort due to limited space. Visit scgov.net and search for "evacuation center" for additional information.

If you require assistance or have special needs, register in advance at scgov.net under the "medical needs program." Online applications close 60 hours before the storm hits. Qualifying medical needs include oxygen use or equipment dependent on electricity. Special needs hurricane evacuation centers provide medical monitoring, not hands-on care, so bring a caregiver if necessary.

Transportation to evacuation centers is offered with online registration, but is required at least 60 hours before the storm. For more details, visit scgov.net and search "transportation plan."

Prepare Financially

Having flood insurance is crucial to securing yourself financially against flooding. This insurance covers damages, even without a federal disaster declaration by the President, which is typically needed for most disaster aid. Without flood insurance, government relief usually comes as a loan from the Small Business Administration. Regular homeowner's insurance policies do not include flood damage coverage. Keep in mind that there is a 30-day waiting period before the policy becomes effective. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provides a 20% discount due to the City's participation in the Community Rating System. Create a log and take photos of all contents of your home.

To determine your flood zone, visit venicegov.com and search for "flood zone map." Evacuation levels differ, so visit venicegov.com and search "evacuation level."

In the event your property suffers flood damage, you might need to meet specific building standards to mitigate future flood damage before repairing or rebuilding. The NFIP offers Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) coverage to help with these expenses. For more details, search for "ICC" on fema.gov. Be sure to apply for all applicable local building permits before beginning any work.

After the Storm

After a storm, prioritize the safety of your family. If needed, dial 911 as all calls are recorded even if emergency services are not immediately accessible. Avoid floodwaters, fallen power lines, and damaged structures. Do not attempt to drive through floodwaters, as even 12 inches of water can sweep a vehicle away. Report down power lines to fpl.com. Report broken water or sewer utilities to 941-480-2770. Adhere to all boil water notices.



Take photos of any damage to buildings and belongings. Remember that insurance companies have specific deadlines for filing claims. Check the status of your claim frequently.



If it is safe to enter your home, remove wet contents as soon as possible and dry the building out. Throw away any food if you suspect the power was lost. Use flashlights not candles, in the case of a gas leak. Only use generators outside at least 20 feet away from the house in a well ventilated area to prevent asphyxiation. Do not walk through floodwaters, as 6 inches of moving water can carry a person away.

