



## COUNTY OF HYDE

30 Oyster Creek Road  
PO Box 188  
SWAN QUARTER, NORTH CAROLINA 27885  
[www.hydecourtnc.gov](http://www.hydecourtnc.gov)  
252-926-4400

### Hyde County, NC

PRESS RELEASE: September 28, 2018 1:00pm  
CONTACT: Donnie Shumate, Public Information Officer  
252-542-0083, [dshumate@hydecourtnc.gov](mailto:dshumate@hydecourtnc.gov)

### **Hurricane Florence Recovery Bulletin #3 Local/State/Federal Disaster Assistance Programs Available to Hyde County**

Hyde County residents have a number of local/state/federal assistance programs and services available to help them recover in the wake of Hurricane Florence. In an effort to consolidate recovery information, Hyde County Public Information will be preparing and releasing recovery bulletins to assist our citizens.

#### **FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) Program**

On September 24, 2018, President Trump issued a major disaster declaration for the State of North Carolina triggering the release of Federal funds to help individuals and communities recover from Hurricane Florence. Hyde County has received a FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) Declaration which allows homeowners, renters, and businesses to apply for vital short-term and long-term recovery assistance.

#### **Assistance can include grants for:**

- Temporary housing
- Essential home repairs
- Uninsured and underinsured personal property losses
- Other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance

#### **Applicants will be asked for the following information:**

- Social Security number
- Address of the damaged primary residence
- Description of the damage
- Information about insurance coverage
- A current contact telephone number
- An address where they can receive mail
- Bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of funds

Residents can apply at <http://www.disasterassistance.gov>, 800-621-3362 or (TTY) 800-462-7585. Applicants who use 711 or Video Relay Service may also call 800-621-3362.

Information about a FEMA Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) opening in Hyde County will be forthcoming. We will send out information on its location and hours of operation as soon as it is confirmed. FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance teams are currently on the ground canvassing areas in the County to offer assistance to residents. FEMA personnel will have identification showing who they are.

#### **FEMA DRCs offer survivors:**

- Information regarding the Individuals and Households Program
  - Clarification of any written correspondence received
  - Answers to questions and resolutions to problems
  - Application status
  - Submission of additional requested documentation to FEMA
- Information regarding the Crisis Counseling Program, Disaster Legal Services, and Disaster Unemployment Assistance
- Assistance in completing U.S. Small Business Administration applications
- Access to representatives from state/local services and voluntary agencies with access to local disaster assistance resources

#### **United Methodist Committee on Relief**

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has a team in Hyde County to offer short term relief assistance to residents. They can assist with getting your home habitable again, clean up efforts, tarp installation, tree removal, and tear outs. The county has provided residential damage information to the UMCOR early response team to aid in the recovery process. You can also register for assistance with them by calling 1-888-440-9167.

#### **Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loans**

Hyde County residents may be eligible for financial assistance from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Available disaster loan types include:

- **Business Physical Disaster Loans** – Loans to businesses to repair or replace disaster-damaged property owned by the business, including real estate, inventories, supplies, machinery and equipment. Businesses of any size are eligible. Private, non-profit organizations such as charities, churches, private universities, etc., are also eligible.
- **Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)** – Working capital loans to help small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes meet their ordinary and necessary financial obligations that cannot be met as a direct result of the disaster. These loans are intended to assist through the disaster recovery period.

- **Home Disaster Loans** – Loans to homeowners or renters to repair or replace disaster-damaged real estate and personal property, including automobiles.

For more information, contact SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center by calling 800-659-2955, emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov), or visiting SBA's website at <http://www.sba.gov/disaster>. Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call 800-877-8339. Applicants may also apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

### **Disaster Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP)**

Through the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is able to quickly offer short-term food assistance benefits to families suffering in the wake of a disaster.

Eligible households receive one month of benefits, equivalent to the maximum amount of benefits normally issued to a SNAP household of their size. Benefits are issued via an electronic benefits transfer (EBT) card, which can be used to purchase food at most grocery stores.

Through D-SNAP, affected households use a simplified application. D-SNAP benefits are issued to eligible applicants within 72 hours, speeding assistance to disaster victims and reducing the administrative burden on State agencies operating in post-disaster conditions. Households not normally eligible for SNAP may qualify for D-SNAP as a result of their disaster related expenses, such as loss of income, damage to property, relocation expenses, and, in some cases, loss of food due to power outages.

When States operate a D-SNAP, ongoing SNAP clients can also receive disaster food assistance. Households with disaster losses whose SNAP benefits are less than the monthly maximum can request a supplement. The supplement brings their benefits up to the maximum for the household size. This provides equity between D-SNAP households and SNAP households receiving disaster assistance.

FNS approves D-SNAP operations in an affected area under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act when the area has received a Presidential disaster declaration of Individual Assistance (IA) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

State agencies request FNS approval to operate a D-SNAP within the disaster area. FNS approves program operations for a limited period of time during which the State agency may accept D-SNAP applications.

The Hyde County Department of Social Services (DSS) will begin registering mainland residents for D-SNAP benefits on Friday, September 28, 2018 through Saturday, October 6, 2018 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, with the exception of Sunday, Sept. 30, when all application sites will be closed. Registration will be held at the Hyde County Department of Social Services, 35015 US Hwy 264; Engelhard, NC 27824 and O.A. Peay School; 1430 Main St, Swan Quarter, NC 27885.

Hyde County DSS staff will be available at the Ocracoke Community Center, 999 Irvin Garrish Hwy, on Tuesday, October 2 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and Wednesday, October 3 from 8:00 am to 11:30 am.

Hyde County D-SNAP registration will cease at the close of business on Saturday, October 6, 2018.

## **Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) Program**

The Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) Program provides temporary weekly monetary assistance to individuals in specified areas whose employment has been lost or interrupted as a direct result of a presidentially declared major disaster.

Workers who became unemployed as a direct result of the effects of Hurricane Florence impacting North Carolina, may be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits under the DUA program. Business owners affected by the storm may also qualify for benefits.

Workers or business owners meeting the following criteria may be eligible for benefits:

- Individuals who are unemployed due to the disaster, and do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits.
- Self-employed individuals and small business owners who lost income due to the disaster.
- Individuals who were prevented from working due to an injury caused by the disaster.
- Individuals who have become the major supplier of household income due to the disaster-related death of the previous major supplier of household income.
- Individuals who are unable to reach their jobs or self-employment locations, because they must travel through the affected area and are prevented from doing so by the disaster.
- Individuals who were to commence employment or self-employment, but were prevented from doing so by the disaster.

DUA is available for weeks of employment beginning with the week starting September 9, 2018, and may last for up to 27 weeks, as long as the claimant's unemployment continues to be as a result of Hurricane Florence.

If you are eligible for regular Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits, you must first exhaust those benefits before you are eligible for DUA. To apply for assistance you should call DES toll free at 1-866-795-8877. Be prepared by having the following information:

- Your social security number, your Alien Registration number if you are a non-citizen.
- Any check stubs or other proof of earnings for employment you have had within the last 18 months.
- If self-employed, your most recent Federal Income Tax returns and/or your profit and loss statement.

Individuals who are affected by the disaster and are unable to continue working must file an application for benefits by October 25, 2018.

## **Local Public Health Services**

## **Environmental Health Services**

If floodwater breached your well, you must chlorinate your well prior to use. For information on use of a well or septic tank after flooding, or for any other Environmental Health information, contact Environmental Health Specialist Roni Collier at 252-926-4380 or via email at [rcollier@hydehealth.com](mailto:rcollier@hydehealth.com).

For food and lodging Environmental Health inspections, or for any other Environmental Health information, contact Environmental Health Specialist Roni Collier at 252-926-4380 or via email at [rcollier@hydehealth.com](mailto:rcollier@hydehealth.com).

### **Tetanus Shots Encouraged**

Tetanus shots are encouraged for citizens and volunteers in contact with debris from Hurricane Florence. If you have not received a tetanus shot in the last 10 years or do not remember the date of your last vaccination, contact the Hyde County Health Department at 252-926-4399 to make an appointment to receive this vaccination.

### **Health and Safety Information**

Health and safety information in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence is available at kiosks at all US Postal Service Offices in Hyde County, the Government Center, and Department of Social Services. This information is also available on the web at <http://hydehealth.com> under the Public Health Preparedness and Response tab. For more information about Public Health Preparedness and Response, please contact the Preparedness Coordinator Misty Gibbs at 252-926-4184 or via email at [mgibbs@hydehealth.com](mailto:mgibbs@hydehealth.com).

### **Primary Care Available**

If you are feeling unwell after the storm, you can now see a provider five (5) days a week at the Health Department. Primary care is available for men, women and children. Services include: yearly physicals, chronic disease management, sick visits, laboratory services, well child visits and immunizations. Accepted forms of payment include private insurances, Medicaid, and Medicare. The Hyde County Health Department also provides services to those without insurance. A reduced rate may be available according to a sliding scale based on family size and income. Appointments are available Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

### **Mental Health Services**

Hyde County residents requiring mental health services in the wake of Hurricane Florence may visit the [Trillium Health Website](#), or citizens can call Trillium Health Resources Access to Care at 1-877-685-2415.

Hyde County Website = <http://www.hydecountync.gov>

Hyde County Facebook Page = <https://www.facebook.com/HydeCountyNC/>

Hyde County Twitter Page = <https://twitter.com/HydeNC>