

One Year Later: North Carolina's Recovery from Hurricane Matthew

Storm Overview

Hurricane Matthew hit North Carolina on October 8-9, 2016, causing an estimated \$4.8 billion in damage across half of North Carolina's 100 counties. The storm brought up to 18 inches of rain in a three-day period; setting rainfall records in 17 counties. Matthew followed Tropical Storms Julia and Hermine, which had saturated the ground in many counties. Following Matthew, the Tar, Cape Fear, Cashie, Lumber and Neuse Rivers flooded and remained at flood stage for two weeks.

Impact Summary

- 31 fatalities
- 141 shelters in 35 counties housed 4,000+ people. The first shelters opened October 7; the last shelter closed November 14.
- More than 815,000+ power outages (at peak)
- Estimated 98,700 homes damaged; many were in low-moderate income neighborhoods
- More than 660 roads closed (2 remain closed for bridge replacement; will re-open in 2018)
- 20 dams breached
- 21 counties issued water advisories
- 2,336 people rescued from floodwaters by swift water teams

Preparation Overview

- State of Emergency declared Oct. 3, 2016 for 66 counties; extended Oct. 6 for all 100
- 11 counties issued evacuations
- 47 counties declared local states of emergency
- 46 counties activated their Emergency Operations Centers
- State Emergency Operations Center was activated from Oct. 3 – 31

Recovery Assistance

- 50 counties approved for federal disaster aid for local governments & non-profits
- 45 counties approved for federal disaster aid for individuals and business owners
- 81,979 North Carolinians registered with FEMA for Disaster Assistance
- 29,675 residents visited one of 39 Disaster Recovery Centers operated by FEMA/NCEM

Helping Families and Businesses

- 3,101 families were housed in hotels (via FEMA/NCEM) while their homes were repaired
As of as of 9/28/17, four families remained in hotels while repairs to their homes are being completed.
- 161 temporary housing units provided by FEMA while families rebuilt their homes
- More than 62,500 damaged homes inspected and paperwork sent to FEMA
- More than \$98.1 million in grants given to help families replace belongings/repair homes
- More than \$102.5 million in loans to help 2,239 homeowners and 462 businesses
- \$591,236 provided in Disaster Unemployment Insurance to 1,322 people who lost their jobs due to Hurricane Matthew
- \$195.5 million paid for 5,793 flood insurance claims
- 2,987 properties qualified for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to raise or move homes.
- \$100 million estimated available funds for HMGP; enough to help 800 homeowners

Figures as of October 2, 2017

Helping Communities

- More than \$391 million anticipated in funding to repair and replace public infrastructure, clear debris, provide emergency services, and repair bridges and roads.
- To date, \$191.8 million approved to respond to storm, including:
 - \$52.5 million for emergency protective measures & storm response
 - \$35.3 million to remove debris
 - \$23.6 million to repair roads and bridges
 - \$12.4 million to repair public water and sewer facilities
 - \$18.5 million to repair public buildings (schools, fire and police departments, etc.)
 - \$37.1 million to repair public utilities
 - \$10.5 million to repair local parks and other recreational facilities

Recovery Funding Assistance - \$1.5 billion allocated (to date) for Matthew recovery

Federal Funding		State Funding	
Amount	Summary	Amount	Summary
\$98,193,197	Individual Assistance grants – FEMA	\$20,000,000	Repair low-moderate income housing- NC Housing Agency
\$391,791,695	<i>Estimated</i> Public Assistance grants – FEMA pays 75%; state pays 25%	\$20,000,000	Emergency sheltering & recovery planning - NCEM
\$102,551,700	Home/Business loans - SBA	\$55,000,000	Small business loans, repair/replace infrastructure – Golden LEAF
\$195,493,901	Flood Insurance claims – FEMA/NFIP	\$10,250,000	Rural economic development & small business assistance – NC Commerce
\$100,000,000	<i>Estimated</i> Hazard Mitigation Grants; FEMA pays 75%; state pays 25%	\$32,200,000	Farm and dam repairs; stream debris removal – NC Ag department
\$236,460,000	Community Development Block Grants to repair/rebuild affordable housing - HUD	\$250,000	Research farm dike repair – Agriculture Research Station
\$83,000,000	Dam repair - USACE	\$98,500,000	State match for federal funds
\$27,500,000	Emergency Conservation Program- USDA	\$20,000,000	Housing needs - NCEM
\$23,000,000	Road repair/ reconstruction - FHWA	\$5,000,000	Multi-family, low-income housing for Fair Bluff- Lumber River COG
\$4,500,000	Disaster case management - FEMA	\$2,700,000	Offset Impact to Enrollment- NC Community Colleges
\$4,900,000	Job funding for affected workers- USDOL	\$263,900,000	Total State Funds
\$1,267,390,493	Total Federal Funds		

Unmet Needs

Millions of dollars in additional state and federal funds are needed to help North Carolina recover fully, especially to:

- Repair 7,831 homes
- Elevate or replace 1,986 homes eligible for housing mitigation projects
- Repair public housing in heavily damaged communities
- Repair and replace rural infrastructure and community service facilities
- Help farmers with agricultural losses
- Help small businesses