

Helene Disaster Recovery Centers to Temporarily Close for New Year's Holiday

In partnership with the state and local governments, FEMA will close 15 Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) in Ashe, Avery, Burke, Buncombe, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania, Watauga and Yancey counties at noon Dec. 31.

The centers will reopen **8 a.m. Jan. 2**. Center hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday–Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To find a center near you: click the **DRC locator** at www.fema.gov/drc.

It is not necessary to go to a center to apply for FEMA assistance. The fastest way to apply is online at <https://www.disasterassistance.org> or via the FEMA App, text “DRC” and a ZIP code to 43362. You may also call 800-621-3362. If you use a relay service, such as video relay, captioned telephone or other service, give FEMA your number for that service.

Homeowners and renters in 39 North Carolina counties and tribal members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians can visit any open center, including locations in other states. No appointment is needed.

The deadline to apply for FEMA assistance is Feb. 6, 2025.

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