



North Carolina Wildfires November 17, 2023

Office of Governor Roy Cooper

20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301
(919) 814-2000

[home-page](#) | [NC Gov. Cooper](#)

[Governor Roy Cooper](#) | [Facebook](#)

[Governor Roy Cooper \(@NC_Governor\)](#) / [X \(twitter.com\)](#)

Press release by Governor Cooper on Wednesday, November 8th, 2023:

“Today, Governor Roy Cooper declared a State of Emergency in response to the ongoing wildfires in Western North Carolina and the continued drought conditions throughout the state.

“I am grateful for the first responders who have jumped into action to help combat the ongoing wildfires in Western North Carolina,” said Governor Cooper. “The fires and the continued droughts across the state pose a risk to public health and safety and we want to ensure that all residents and their property remain safe and protected.”

The Executive Order will coordinate and support emergency response operations among North Carolina entities and officials to ensure the protection and safety of North Carolina residents.

The emergency area is specified to encompass Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Polk, Rowan, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Union, Watauga, Wilkes and Yancey counties as well as tribal lands in the State of North Carolina held by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

“The current wildfires, combined with the ongoing drought and weather forecast have increased our risk for additional fire activity, especially in the western part of our state. This emergency declaration will help facilitate getting the needed resources to combat these wildfires, to save lives and property, and to support our local jurisdictions and agencies, as well as state partners who are engaged in fighting these fires.” said Will Ray, Director of North Carolina Emergency Management. “We are incredibly proud of the North Carolina Forest Service, local fire departments, and the US Forest Service who have stepped up to combat these fires and protect our state.”

Read Executive Order No. 293 [here](#).”

Office of North Carolina Department of Public Safety

512 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27699-4201
(919) 710-8885

[Homepage | NC DPS](#)

[North Carolina Department of Public Safety | Raleigh NC | Facebook](#)

[NC Dept of Public Safety \(@ncpublicsafety\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

American Red Cross

Charlotte Metro Chapter (Regional Headquarters)

Charlotte Metro

Counties: Cherokee, Iredell, Mecklenburg, street address>
2425 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28203
(704) 376-1661

[Charlotte Metro North Carolina | Greater Carolinas | American Red Cross](#)

[American Red Cross | Facebook](#)

[American Red Cross \(@RedCross\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

Southern Piedmont Chapter

Counties covered: Cabarrus, Rowan, Union
125 Pedro St. Suite E
Monroe, NC 28110
(704) 283-7402

[Southern Piedmont | North Carolina | American Red Cross](#)

[American Red Cross | Facebook](#)

[American Red Cross \(@RedCross\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

Blue Ridge Piedmont Chapter

Counties covered: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln, Watauga, Wilkes
1375 Lenoir Rhyne Blvd.
Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 322-4151

[Blue Ridge Piedmonth | North Carolina | American Red Cross](#)

[American Red Cross | Facebook](#)

[American Red Cross \(@RedCross\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

Western North Carolina Chapter

Counties: Buncombe, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Wain, Transylvania, and Yancey
100 Edgewood Road
Asheville, NC 28804
(828) 258-3888

[Western North Carolina | North Carolina | Red Cross](#)

[American Red Cross | Facebook](#)
[American Red Cross \(@RedCross\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

Northern South Carolina Office

Counties: Cherokee
200 Piedmont Boulevard
Rock Hill, SC 29732
(803) 329-6575

[Northern South Carolina | American Red Cross](#)
[American Red Cross | Facebook](#)
[American Red Cross \(@RedCross\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

Open Shelters: Please note that there currently are no open shelters currently in NC. Please see the following link for an up-to-date list of available shelters.

[Disaster Shelters | Find Shelters | American Red Cross](#)

North Carolina Department of Transportation

1501 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1501
(877) 368-4968

[N.C. Department of Transportation \(ncdot.gov\)](http://ncdot.gov)

[North Carolina Department of Transportation | Raleigh NC | Facebook](#)
[NCDOT \(@ncdotcom\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

For travel conditions and road closures, please visit [DriveNC.gov | North Carolina Traffic, Road Closures & Travel Information](#)

United Way/211 Information and Referrals Lines

These information and referral lines may know of additional resources currently providing assistance, such as food pantries, clothing closets, emergency shelters, and agencies offering financial assistance. Please dial 2-1-1 and provide your zip code and demographic information in order to receive referrals. Information can also be obtained at [Call 211 for Essential Community Services | United Way 211](#).

NC 2-1-1
Call 211 or (888) 892-1162
[NC 211](#)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

(800) 621-3362

FEMA.gov

Please visit the website and click on “*Disaster Declarations*”. If a disaster is declared, please call to apply for assistance by phone, or visit: [Individual Assistance | FEMA.gov](#) to apply online.

DisasterAssistance.gov

[Home | disasterassistance.gov](#)

Offers information about local resources for disasters, including: FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), Red Cross, food, shelter, state emergency management agencies, and hospital locators.

To determine if individual disaster assistance is available through FEMA, please visit the website and enter the address.

To locate your local state emergency management agency for disaster information and updates, please visit: [Search Your Location | FEMA.gov](#)

American Red Cross National

(800) 733-2767

[American Red Cross | Help Those Affected by Disasters](#)

National Weather Service

Weather alerts by state are available at: [Active Alerts \(weather.gov\)](#).

The Weather Channel

Local forecasts and severe weather. Please call or visit the website to locate your local chapter and open shelters.

[National and Local Weather Radar, Daily Forecast, Hurricane and information from The Weather Channel and weather.com.](#)

Safe Travel USA

[SafeTravelUSA](#)

National Traffic And Road Closure Information

[National Traffic and Road Closure Information | Federal Highway Administration \(dot.gov\)](#)

Free Help Line

Optum, a leading health and behavioral health services company, is offering a free emotional-support help line.

The toll-free number, 866-447-3573, will be open Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm Central Time. The service is free of charge and open to anyone. Specially trained Optum mental health specialists help people manage their stress and anxiety so they can continue to address their everyday needs. Callers may also receive referrals to community resources to help them with specific concerns, including financial and legal matters.

Along with the toll-free help line, emotional-support resources and information are available online at <https://www.liveandworkwell.com>.