

Hurricane Maria Puerto Rico Resources

October 4, 2017

Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration – Office of the Governor

1100 17th St NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 778-0710
<http://prfaa.pr.gov>

President Donald J. Trump made additional disaster assistance available to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico by authorizing an increase in the level of Federal funding for debris removal and emergency protective measures undertaken in the Commonwealth as a result of Hurricane Maria beginning on September 17, 2017, and continuing.

President Trump increased cost sharing to 100 percent Federal funding for debris removal and emergency protective measures, including direct Federal assistance, for 180 days from the date of the declaration.

Individual seeking information or assistance should call (202) 800-3133.

For a listing of emergency management centers please visit <http://prfaa.pr.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Oficinas-Regionales.pdf>

Emergency Shelter:

Please visit <http://www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/find-an-open-shelter> for a list of emergency shelters throughout Puerto Rico. There are over 500 shelters available across Puerto Rico.

Emergency Telephone Numbers:

State Agency for Emergency Management and Disaster Management (AEMEAD)
(787) 724-0124

Electrical Company (AEE)
(787) 521-3434

Automobile Association of America (AAA)
(787) 620-2482

Police

(787) 343-2020

Fire Fighters

(787) 722-1120

Department of Transportation (DTOP)

(787) 787-9918

(787) 225-1539

National Meteorological Service

(787) 253-4586

Office of Emergency Management

Apartado 194140

San Juan, PR 00926

(787)-724-0124

<http://www2.pr.gov/agencias/aemead/Pages/Home.aspx>

Red Cross Puerto Rico

PO BOX 9021067

San Juan, Puerto Rico

(787) 758-8150

<http://www.redcross.org/local/puerto-rico>

The American Red Cross has 2 easy ways to help people reconnect.

The "Emergency - American Red Cross" emergency application has the "I'm Safe" button, which allows users to post a message on their social networks and notify their friends and family who are out of danger. This emergency application is free and available in the app store on your mobile device by searching for "American Red Cross" or redcross.org/apps.

The American Red Cross also offers the "Safe and sound" website, which is a secure and more private option than the "I'm Safe" feature of the emergency application. It allows people to include their own status on the list and allows friends and family members to search for messages from their loved ones. The website "Sano y Salvo" is frequently used by institutions to register a large number of people; nursing homes, assisted living facilities, schools, workplaces and other entities often use it to notify people. Knowing how to reach your loved ones is a very important part of a family communication plan. It is helpful to choose a loved one out of town to serve as a point of contact for your family during an emergency.

Health Department:

Centro Médico Norte

Calle Periferal Interior,

Bo. Monacillos Rio Piedras, PR

(787) 765-2929

<http://www.salud.gov.pr/Pages/Home.aspx>

After the passage of Hurricane Maria and during the process of restoration of some basic services such as drinking water and electricity, it is important that citizens take due precautions to avoid damage to health.

ADEQUATE FOOD MANAGEMENT

- Examine each food separately.
- Eliminates foods that have unusual odor, color, texture and / or temperature.
- Never try a food to decide if it is safe to consume it. If in doubt, discard it.
- Do not consume food that may have been in contact with the water from the flood.

ADEQUATE WATER HANDLING

- The water should be boiled for a minimum of 3 minutes before consuming it, to avoid the transmission of diseases.
- As an alternative to boiling water, you can add 8 drops of household chlorine without fragrance, per gallon of water.
- Water storage containers should be kept closed at all times without being exposed to the sun.

PROTECT AND PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FROM MOSQUITO BITES

- Uses mosquito repellent
- Dress sleeves and long pants, light colors
- Put scraps on doors and windows
- Cover or remove containers that accumulate water in your home
- Inspect the septic tanks, keep them sealed and with wire mesh in the vent

HAND WASHING

Washing hands with soap for 20 seconds is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of infections and diseases.

When should you wash your hands?

- Before, during and after preparing food.
- Before eating or drinking.
- Before and after attending to someone who is sick.
- Before and after curing wounds or cuts.
- After going to the bathroom.
- After changing diapers to a child or cleaning them after they have gone to the bathroom.
- After blowing nose, coughing or sneezing.
- After having touched animals, animal feed or animal excrement.
- After touching trash.

NATIONAL RESOURCES:

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

500 C Street SW

Washington, DC 20472

(800) 621-3362

<http://www.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 <http://www.fema.gov/apply-assistance> to apply online.

President Donald Trump has authorized the following FEMA assistance programs for residents of Puerto Rico affected by Hurricane Maria

Assistance for Affected Individuals and Families can Include:

- Rental payments for temporary housing for those whose homes are unlivable. Initial assistance may be provided for up to three months for homeowners and at least one month for renters. Assistance may be extended if requested after the initial period based on a review of individual applicant requirements. (Source: FEMA funded and administered.)
- Grants for home repairs and replacement of essential household items not covered by insurance to make damaged dwellings safe, sanitary and functional. (Source: FEMA funded and administered.)
- Grants to replace personal property and help meet medical, dental, funeral, transportation and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance or other federal, municipality and charitable aid programs. (Source: FEMA funded at 75 percent of total eligible costs; 25 percent funded by the Commonwealth.)
- Unemployment payments up to 26 weeks for workers who temporarily lost jobs because of the disaster and who do not qualify for Commonwealth benefits, such as self-employed individuals. (Source: FEMA funded; Commonwealth administered.)
- Low-interest loans to cover residential losses not fully compensated by insurance. Loans available up to \$200,000 for primary residence; \$40,000 for personal property, including renter losses. Loans available up to \$2 million for business property losses not fully compensated by insurance. (Source: U.S. Small Business Administration.)
- Loans up to \$2 million for small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes that have suffered disaster-related cash flow problems and need funds for working capital to recover from the disaster's adverse economic impact. This loan in combination with a property loss loan cannot exceed a total of \$2 million. (Source: U.S. Small Business Administration.)
- Loans up to \$500,000 for farmers, ranchers and aquaculture operators to cover production and property losses, excluding primary residence. (Source: Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture.)
- Other relief programs: Crisis counseling for those traumatized by the disaster; income tax assistance for filing casualty losses; advisory assistance for legal, veterans' benefits and social security matters.

How to Apply for Assistance:

Individuals and business owners who sustained losses in the designated area can begin applying for assistance by registering online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov/es or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). Disaster assistance applicants, who have a speech disability or hearing loss and use TTY, should call 1-800-462-7585 directly; for those who use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 1-800-621-3362. The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. (local time) seven days a week until further notice.

DISASTERASSISTANCE.GOV

<https://www.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 <http://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-agencies>

AMERICAN RED CROSS NATIONAL

National Headquarters

2025 East Street, NW

Washington, DC 20006

(202) 303-4498 or (800) 733-2767

<http://www.redcross.org>

Please call or visit the website to locate your local chapter and open shelters.

AMERICAN RED CROSS SAFE AND WELL LIST

<https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php>

Residents affected can notify their friends and family that they are safe by visiting the website and selecting "*List Myself as Safe and Well.*" Individuals can also search for loved ones by selecting "*Search Registrants.*"

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Weather alerts by state are available at <http://www.weather.gov/alerts>.

THE WEATHER CHANNEL

Local forecasts and severe weather alerts, available at <http://www.weather.com>.