Buncombe County Helene: Need to Know Information

Updated 4/9/2025

NEW: Buncombe County Operated Helene Resource Center Now Open

The Helene Resource Center (HRC) will serve as a central hub for Helene survivors, providing continued access to recovery services.

94 Coxe Avenue in Downtown Asheville 8 am - 5 pm, Monday-Friday *Free parking is located across the street and no appointment is necessary.

Survivors can access multiple resources including:

- FEMA Individual Assistance
- Private Property Debris Removal
- State Disaster Čase Management
- Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster loans
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Additional survivor-focused services and referrals



Free Private Property Debris Removal Services

Deadline Approaching Apply by April 15

Buncombe County property owners (residential or commercial) who do not have debris removal insurance, may apply to have qualified disaster debris removed from at no cost through the Private Property Debris Removal (PPDR) Program. The program also covers the demolition of eligible unsafe structures or threatening trees. Call the One Buncombe Call Center at 828-250-6100 select option 2.



Housing, Rental, Mortgage & Utility Assistance

<u>Disaster Energy Assistance Program</u> provides funds to help with a variety of home heating costs. This can include electricity bills, insulation replacement costs, roof repairs, and more.

- Apply in person or via phone M-F from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. now as funds are expected to run out.
- Call: (828) 250-5500
- In-person: 40 Coxe Avenue, Asheville.

GET PERSONALIZED HELP

North Carolina Disaster Case Management Program



The North Carolina
Disaster Case
Management
Program (NC-DCM)
is now available to
guide Helene
survivors through
the recovery
process. Case
managers make
personalized
recovery plans with
available resources.

Call 844-746-2326 or fill out the NC-DCM intake form at www.ncdps.gov/hel ene/dcm



SCAN HERE



Scan here for more rental, mortgage and housing assistance programs

Affected by Flooding or Landslides? Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Open

North Carolina Emergency Management offers assistance to property owners for strategies including:

- elevation
- strengthening buildings to withstand natural disasters
- property buyouts (property remains greenspace)
- slope stabilization for landslides

Visit www.ncdps.gov or scan the QR code to learn more.









Food and Goods Assistance Available

- Buncombe County's Community Engagement Markets offer food at no cost to the public, along with connections to County services and community partners. Check buncombecounty.org for calendar and locations.
- MANNA FoodBank maintains a free food resource at www.mannafoodbank.org/wnc-free-food-distributions.
- Bounty & Soul shares fresh produce and other whole foods at no cost to support people experiencing food insecurity. Learn more at bountyandsoul.org/
- ABCCM Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministries has 4 locations in the area, offering food, clothing, goods, financial assistance, and counseling. Call (828) 259-5300 or visit www.abccm.org/get-help.
- NEW Families who are seeking diaper assistance can visit www.nc211.org or call 1-888-892-1162 to be connected to other social service agencies. Community members can learn more or donate to support this work by visiting www.babiesneedbottoms.org.



Legal Services

Pisgah Legal Services: offers free legal assistance with FEMA and Disaster Benefits applications, insurance issues, housing and evictions issues, consumer protections, and domestic violence and custody issues. Apply at www.pisgahlegal.org or call 828-253-0406



NEW: Private Road and Bridge Program:

Residents with a private road, culvert, pipe, or bridge that was damaged by Tropical Storm Helene, may be eligible for assistance. Complete the interest form by scanning the QR code to the right. This program is separate from FEMA assistance and is administered by North Carolina Emergency Management.



NEW: Agriculture Crop Loss Program Apply by May 2



If you are an agricultural producer who lost crops due to Helene or other natural disasters in 2024, a new funding program will be available to help with the monetary losses. Have questions or need help applying? Call Buncombe County Cooperative Extension at 828-255-5522. You will need a copy of the Farm Service Agency's Producer Form "FSA 578" from your local USDA-FSA office. Disaster Assistance Hotline for crop losses related to Hurricane Helene or other disasters, call 1-866-645-9403 Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Community Care Station





Showers, self-service laundry, charging, food, WiFi, and water are available.

Swannanoa: Owen Pool 117 Stone Dr, Swannanoa, NC 28778 Open 9 a.m.-9 p.m. weekdays, 7 a.m.-7 p.m. weekends

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Call 911 for life-threatening emergencies

- One Buncombe Call Center: M-F 9-5: (828) 250-6100
- City of Asheville Water Resources customer service (828)-251-1122
- Non-Emergency Issues: (828) 250-6650
- Sign up for BC Alerts by texting BCAlert to 99411
- NC Attorney General's Office report scams and fraud call (877) 5-NO-SCAM

Mental Health Resources:

- Call or text 988
- · Disaster Distress Helpline: 800-985-5990
- NC Peer Warmline 855-PEERS-NC
- VAYA Behavioral Health 800-849-6127



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