

Buncombe County Helene: Need to Know Information

Updated 3/20/2025



Burn Ban in Effect

The Buncombe County Fire Marshal's Office has issued an open burning ban until Sunday, March 23 at 10 a.m., with the possibility of extension. The ban applies to all open burning including yard waste, debris, and land-clearing burns.

Fires in pits, barbecue grills, cooking fires, warming fires, or chimeneas, and outdoor stoves smaller than three feet in diameter are not included in this ban. It is never legal to burn anything other than naturally occurring vegetation.



FEMA Assistance- Apply by April 7

- Apply for assistance at disasterassistance.gov or call the FEMA helpline: 800-621-3362
- FEMA assistance may include money for home repairs, housing assistance, personal property losses or other uninsured, disaster-related needs like childcare, transportation, medical, farm and work related tools or equipment, and private road/ bridge repairs. The deadline to apply for FEMA is April 7, 2025.
 Visit a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) Hours at all
- Visit a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) Hours at all locations are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.
 - Fairview Public Library 1 Taylor Road Fairview, NC 28730
 - Weaverville Town Hall 30 South Main Street Weaverville, NC 28787



Housing, Rental, Mortgage & Utility Assistance

• <u>Low-Income Energy Assistance Program</u> (LIEAP) apply for one-time heating bill help for low-income households including a person aged 60+ or disabled persons receiving services through the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services. All other households may apply by March 31. Apply online at epass.nc.gov, call 828-250-5500 or in person 40 Coxe Ave.



Scan here for

more rental,

mortgage and housing assistance

programs

 <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.

o 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

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)

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.

MANNA FoodBank maintains a free food resource with a map of its partners and food distributions across 16 WNC counties at www.mannafoodbank.org/wnc-free-fooddistributions.

Bounty & Soul shares fresh produce and other whole foods at no cost to support people experiencing food insecurity. Learn more about the schedule and locations 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.



Scan here for more food and goods resources



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.





Free Private Property Debris Removal Services - 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.



PPDR INFO



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-
- Sign up for BC Alerts by texting BCAlert to 99411
- NC Attorney General's Office report scams and fraud call (877) 5-NO-SCAM

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

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