



FEMA

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# News Release

## Disaster Recovery Center to Open in Lowndes County

**ATLANTA** – The State of Georgia and FEMA will open a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in Lowndes County on Sunday, Sept. 17, to serve Hurricane Idalia survivors from Cook, Glynn and Lowndes counties.

DRCs are dedicated, accessible and established locations where specialists from FEMA’s Individual Assistance program can help survivors face to face. Highly trained specialists assist survivors through the recovery process, explaining the types of assistance available from FEMA, such as housing and other needs assistance.

The Disaster Recovery Center will open at **12 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 17** at:

**Lowndes County Civic Center  
2108 E. Hill Ave.  
Valdosta, GA 31601**

Once opened, the DRC will operate from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week.

**The deadline to apply for assistance is November 6, 2023.**

Some of the services offered at a DRC include:

- Applying for assistance
- Reviewing application status updates
- Clarification of any written correspondence for FEMA
- Guidance about disaster recovery and eligibility
- Collecting and scanning new information or documents needed for case files

In addition to FEMA personnel, representatives from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA), other state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will be available at the DRC to assist survivors.

## You do not need to visit a DRC to apply

If you are unable to visit the Lowndes County DRC, you can apply to FEMA for federal assistance online at [disasterassistance.gov](https://disasterassistance.gov), by calling 800-621-3362 or by using the [FEMA mobile app](#). If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone or other service, give FEMA the number for that service. For an accessible video on how to apply for assistance go to [Three Ways to Apply for FEMA Disaster Assistance](#).

Low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) are also available for homeowners, renters, businesses and most private nonprofits to help with residential and business losses not covered by insurance. After registering with FEMA, survivors and businesses may apply online at SBA's secure website <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela> under SBA declaration #18143. Disaster loan information and application forms can also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (if you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services) or sending an email to [DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov](mailto:DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov). Loan applications can also be downloaded from [sba.gov/disaster](https://sba.gov/disaster).

For the latest information on Georgia's recovery from Hurricane Idalia, visit [fema.gov/disaster/4738](https://fema.gov/disaster/4738), follow FEMA on X, formerly known as Twitter, at [twitter.com/femaregion4](https://twitter.com/femaregion4) and at [facebook.com/fema](https://facebook.com/fema).

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*FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.*

All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, or economic status. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, you can call the Civil Rights Resource line at 833-285-7448.