

#### September 18, 2018

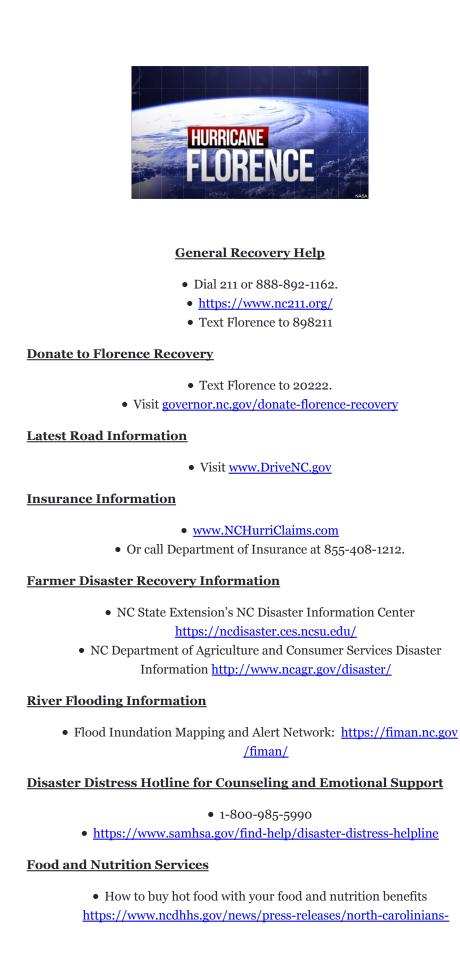
#### Greetings,

Earlier this week, Hurricane Florence began pummeling North Carolina communities. Gov. Cooper, state emergency management officials and state agencies have worked together to open dozens of safe shelters, transport supplies, and call in first responders and personnel for rescue and response efforts, which continued throughout the week and remain ongoing.

Here are important resources and safety tips that you or people you know may benefit from as North Carolina begins to recover from Hurricane Florence.

I want to thank all of you who read my newsletter, including those who frequently write and call my office with their thoughts and concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Best regards, Rep. Carla Cunningham



enrolled-food-and-nutrition-services-program-can-use-benefits

• Lost your EBT card? Replace it by calling the EBT Call Center at 1-888-622-7328.

### NC Small Business Disaster Recovery Resources

http://www.sbtdc.org/hurricaneflorence/

### **Disaster Legal Resources**

- NC Legal Aid: <u>http://www.legalaidnc.org/get-help/self-help-library</u> /disaster-relief
  - NC Bar Association: <u>https://www.ncbar.org/florence/</u>

## Looking for a Shelter?

- <u>https://www.ncdps.gov/florence#sheltersshelters</u>
  - <u>https://www.ncdps.gov/shelters</u>

### **Report Price Gouging**

- Call 1-877-5-NO-SCAM.
- File online complaint at <u>http://ncdoj.gov/pricegougingcomplaint</u>

### Storm Safety Tips

- Never drive or walk through a flooded road or standing water--most deaths occur when people attempt to drive through flooded roadways.
  - Never operate a generator, outdoor grill or camp stove indoors.
    - Don't touch electrical equipment in floods or heavy rains.
- Never attempt to move or cut power lines that have been affected by the storm. Instead, report power lines or gas leaks to your power company.
  - If your property has been flooded, keep electricity shut off.

## Food and Water Safety Tips

- If you've lost power, throw away any perishable foods like meats, dairy and eggs that have been unrefrigerated for more than 2 hours--when in doubt, throw it out.
- Throw away foods that have been contaminated by flood or storm water, which can spread disease and chemical hazards.
- If you have a private well, avoid turning on the electricity to your pump until floods recede.
- If flooding has occurred, don't drink well water until it has been tested. Contact your local health department's private well program for testing.

## Stay Safe by Staying Alert

- Listen to the radio for warnings about wind, tornadoes, rising water, or orders to shut off gas, water and power.
- For real time information on shelters, evacuation routes, food, water,

housing, recovery and rebuilding resources, call 211.

- For emergencies, dial 911.
- North Carolina road safety is changing rapidly. Keep up with the latest updates <u>HERE</u>

#### Storm Response Toolkit

With communities across the state feeling the effects of Florence, Gov. Cooper is urging people to stay safe. Use the following tools to get assistance, check flood levels and view road conditions in your area.



- Individual Assistance
  - Filing Insurance
    - <u>Utilities</u>
- <u>Community Assistance</u>
  - Hazard Mitigation
- <u>Roles During Disaster</u>
  - <u>Cleaning Up</u>

# Recovering and Rebuilding After Disasters



North Carolina Emergency Management works with local, state and federal groups, as well as non-profit and volunteer groups, to help people and areas recover from disaster.

The first step in recovering from a disaster is to call your insurance company. Utility companies will work hard to restore the power, water and gas services.

The <u>Individual Assistance</u> program helps those families and singles whose homes have been damaged or destroyed by a storm to get safe, decent and clean housing. People who become unemployed because of the disaster or who need low-interest loans to replace vital items can also get help. This program also can help small business owners to restore their properties. The <u>Community Assistance</u> program works with local governments to clear debris along the roads. It helps to fix public infrastructure after a disaster. It takes the whole community to recover from a disaster. Learn what your role is and how you can help.

https://readync.org/EN/Index.html

#### Rep. Carla Cunningham: House Committee Assignments 2017-2018 Session

Appropriations Appropriations Health and Human Services Commerce and Job Development Energy and Public Utilities Health Health Care Reform House Select Committee on Implementation of Building Code Regulatory Reform House Select Committee on School Safety Regulatory Reform

<u>Non-Standing Committee</u> Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services

Appointment by North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper North Carolina Commission for Mental Health,

Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services

<u>Appointments by North Carolina House of</u> <u>Representative Speaker Tim Moore</u>

Minority Health Advisory Council Associates Advisory Committee Member- Council of State Government (CSG) Health Public Policy Committee - Council of State Governments (CSG) North Carolina Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

North Carolina Institute of Medicine Legislative Health Policy Fellows Program

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