

Essential Safety Tips After A Storm

Generators

Only use generators outdoors and never in an attached garage.

Keep the generator at least 20 feet from doors, windows, and vent openings.

Before refueling, shut down the generator and allow it to cool.

Ensure working carbon monoxide alarms are present prior to use.

Never connect generators to household wiring without installing a transfer switch. A transfer switch helps to keep electricity traveling in the correct direction and helps protect utility workers from electrocution.

Candles

Never leave a burning candle unattended.

Keep candles away from children and pets.

Place candles in a sturdy candle holder and on a flat surface.

Ensure working smoke alarms are present prior to use.

Keep hair and loose clothing away from the flame.



Response and recovery services for those with disabilities



Able SC has put together a quick form for anyone in the state who has a disability and has unmet needs during the response to Hurricane Helene. The purpose of the form is to get names and contact information from our community so we can share those with our state partners. This [form](#) will be shared on social media and other outlets.

Please send the link to consumers or anyone else that has a specific need or fill it out yourself if you have the information.

Additionally, here is a link to a spreadsheet with resources available to individuals: [Able SC Resources Hurricane Helene](#)

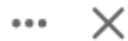
Call 1-800-681-6805 or after hours call 1-803-233-2974 or 1-803-233-2616

Report Price Gouging



South Carolina Emergency Management Division

1h ·



Reminder that SC's price gouging law is in effect. Price fluctuations are to be expected, but if you see a price you think is gouging, report it at <https://www.scag.gov/price-gouging/> or by calling 803-737-3953. We'll need the name & address of the business, pics of the business and price, note any prices nearby and get the same information on those businesses, and provide your contact information for possible follow-up.



South Carolina Attorney General

1h ·

Reminder that SC's price gouging law is in effect. Price fluctuations are to be expected, but if you see a price you think is gouging, report it at [https://www....](https://www...)
[See more](#)



SOUTH CAROLINA
Attorney Gen
ALAN WILSON



SCAG.GOV

Price Gouging -

State law (SC §39-5-145) says that it is unlawful to "rent or sell or offer to ren..."

STAY OUT OF FLOODWATERS!

From the [US National Weather Service Columbia South Carolina](#): Many of our area rivers remain in flood today. Please use caution if you work or live near a river or other swollen body of water.

Floodwaters can easily conceal a variety of dangers, do not walk or swim in them. If you encounter a flooded roadway, remember to turn around, don't drown and please do not drive around posted barricades.

If you have any specific questions or concerns about whether the flooding will impact your home or work, please reach out to your county emergency management office.

STAY OUT OF FLOODWATERS

! *Floodwaters hide dangers that can cause sickness, injury or even death.*

- Animals & insects
- Dangerous chemicals
- Live wires
- Sewage
- Harmful bacteria
- Sharp objects & debris

weather.gov NOAA

REMOVE STANDING WATER

From **South Carolina Department of Public Health**: Following periods of heavy rain and flooding, please remove standing water to help control mosquito populations.

Mosquitoes can develop in water that stands for more than five days. DPH recommends getting rid of all standing water to control the mosquito population around your home and property.

DPH offers educational materials and tips for mosquito prevention, bite prevention and more via our website at dph.sc.gov/mosquitoes.

PREVENTING MOSQUITO BREEDING GROUNDS AROUND THE HOUSE

Are you unknowingly attracting mosquitoes to your property? Mosquitoes can breed in as little as a 1/8 inch of standing water, so even items containing water the size of a bottle cap may be mosquito magnets. The diagram below shows the areas around the home that may be prone to mosquitoes.

- 1 GUTTERS** – Remove leaves and other debris from gutters
- 2 FLOWERPOTS** – Pour out stagnant water from flowerpots and planters
- 3 GRILL COVER** – Make sure water isn't gathering on top of the grill cover
- 4 BABY POOL** – Don't let water sit in baby pools for long periods of time
- 5 BIRDBATH** – Frequently change out the water in birdbaths
- 6 LEAKY PIPES** – Repair any leaky pipes or faucets
- 7 TIRES** – Drill holes in the bottom of tire swings and wheel barrels to allow water to drain
- 8 TRASH CANS** – Ensure trash cans are tightly sealed and lids aren't flipped upside down
- 9 BUCKETS** – Remove water collecting in buckets and toys
- 10 PONDS** – Keep swimming pools and ponds adequately treated

NPMA
National Pest Management Association

For more information visit PestWorld.org

MEDICAL OXYGEN TANK INFORMATION

From **South Carolina Department of Public Health**: DPH has worked to get a supply of medical oxygen tanks into South Carolina for those in need in certain counties. These tanks have been given to county emergency management divisions who will determine the best distribution plan to those in need.

If you live in one of the following counties and are dependent on oxygen, you can contact your county's emergency management division for more information:

- Cherokee: (864) 487-2590
- Edgefield: (803) 637-2123
- Greenville: (864) 467-2680
- Oconee: (864) 638-4200
- Pickens: (864) 898-5945
- Saluda: (803) 334-1446
- Spartanburg: (864) 595-5365

Individuals with oxygen concentrators who do not have access to power needed to use their concentrators at home may be eligible for a medical needs shelter. To find out if you are eligible for a medical needs shelter, call the DPH Care Line at **1-855-472-3432**.

BEWARE OF SCAMS

From **SC Department of Consumer Affairs**: News Release: Beware of scams following Hurricane Helene. Don't give any personal or financial information to a cold caller. Watch for imposters. Research charities before donating. Find additional tips to help protect your personal information and money at <https://consumer.sc.gov/.../beware-scams-following...>



BEWARE OF DISASTER SCAMS

- Watch out for imposters.
- Do not use unusual forms of payment.
- Research charities before donating.
- Report scams to SCDC.

CONSUMER.SC.GOV | (800) 922-1594 | #TELLDCA

Picking up Pieces after a Disaster

View the information provided by the [Federal Trade Commission](#)

See the visuals below:



Advice from the Federal Trade Commission

Picking Up the Pieces After a Disaster

Dealing with a disaster is never easy. Here's some advice to help you avoid common post-disaster scams, protect your personal information, and how to back on track financially.

How to Avoid Clean-up & Repair Scams

- **Be skeptical of anyone promising immediate clean-up and repairs.** Some may quote outrageous prices, demand payment up front, or lack the skills needed.
- **Check contractors out.** Before you pay, ask for their IDs, licenses, and proof of insurance. Don't believe any promises that aren't in writing.
- **Never pay by wire transfer, gift card, cryptocurrency, or in cash.** And never make the final payment until the work is done and you're satisfied.

How to Spot Impersonator Scams

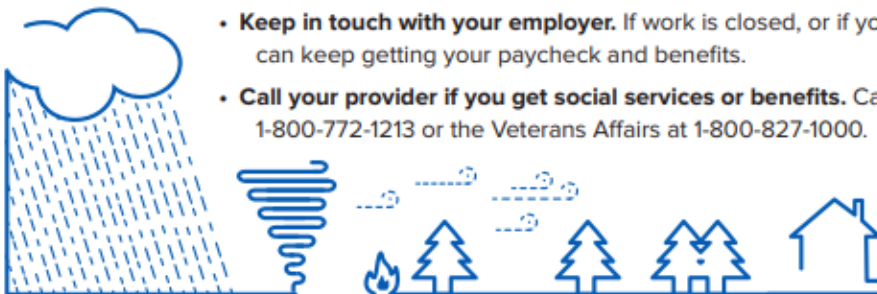
- **Know that FEMA doesn't charge application fees.** If someone wants money to help you qualify for FEMA funds, it's a scam. The best place to get information is [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov).
- **Guard your personal information.** Only scammers will say they're a government official and then demand money or your credit card, bank account, or Social Security number.
- **Know the signs of a rental listing scam.** If anyone asks for a security deposit or rent before you've met or signed a lease, that's a scam. Steer clear.

How to Get Back on Track Financially

You may have left home without IDs, checks, credit and debit cards, and other documents. And you might not have access to your bank account or paycheck for a while. What comes next?

Managing Money

- **Report lost credit, ATM, or debit cards** to the card issuer as soon as possible.
- **Keep in touch with your employer.** If work is closed, or if you can't go, ask if you can keep getting your paycheck and benefits.
- **Call your provider if you get social services or benefits.** Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or the Veterans Affairs at 1-800-827-1000.



Managing Credit

- **Get your free credit report** at AnnualCreditReport.com. This can help if you've lost financial records and need to identify creditors.
- **Talk to creditors, landlords, and utilities as soon as possible.** They may be willing to work with you to avoid late fees, postpone collection, repossessions, and foreclosures.

How to Replace Damaged or Lost Documents

Here's a list of where to go for what.

- **Recorded real estate documents:** County's recorder of deeds
- **Mortgages:** Lender or mortgage servicer
- **Leases:** Landlord or property management company
- **Car title/driver's license:** Secretary of state or department of motor vehicles
- **Birth certificate:** Vital statistics office from county where you were born
- **Social Security card:** Local Social Security Administration office

For more information and advice, visit ftc.gov/WeatherEmergencies

Local Resources

Add your own list of local consumer protection and emergency service contacts to the box below (see example using Florida). Then print and distribute copies throughout your communities.

South Carolina Attorney General
<https://www.scag.gov/>
1-803-734-3970

South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD)
<https://www.scmd.org/>
803-737-8500

RECOVERY

View the SCEMD Recovery Page for [recovery information](#)