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Date: 1/14/2016 9:20:10 AM

**FYSA- Media Monitoring Report for DR 4241 SC 01/14/16**

## *NEWS CLIPS*

SOUTH CAROLINA-DR-4241

Thursday, January 14, 2016

### **Issues:**

- None.

### **Summary:**

- The Greenwood County Sheriff's Office is warning residents to be aware of flood related scams in the area.
- The Richland County Library location of the recovery center on Assembly St. in downtown Columbia will close at 6 p.m. Wednesday, January 13, 2016. Two other centers in Richland County, and nine others around the state, will remain open until they are no longer needed.
- Many services available at disaster recovery centers are also available by calling the **FEMA** helpline.
- A disaster recovery center in Clarendon County will close Friday, Jan. 15, at 6 p.m.
- Clarendon Community Complex, 7 Maple St., Manning
- "Red Cross disaster workers have been helping people affected by these storms since before Christmas and will continue to help them as long as needed," said Ann Wright, executive director for the American Red Cross of Upstate SC.

### **Analysis:**

- None.

### **Social Listening Analysis:**

- None.

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## **Floods**

### **GCSO: Beware of flood scams (GWD Today)**

**GWD Today**, January 13, 2016

The Greenwood County Sheriff's Office is warning residents to be aware of flood related scams in the area.

"There is usually a lot of scams that pop up after any natural disaster," said Capt. Dale Kittles, commander of GCSO's Community Services Division. "People are trying to save their homes and businesses and the last thing they need is a scammer taking advantage of them when they are the most vulnerable."

The most common disaster related scams include debris removal and clean up, shoddy repairs and construction,

and charity fraud, according to Kittles.

Kittles said never give a contractor a down payment in cash. Legitimate contractors typically bill after the work is completed and will accept a check or credit card as a payment method. You can also ask for a current license and certificate of insurance, Kittles said, and always confirm with your insurance company to make sure any repairs are covered by your policy before letting a contractor begin work.

Though contractor scams seem to be the most common, Kittles said there are other ways scammers can take advantage of a natural disaster.

“We also see a lot of suspect charities popping up,” Kittles said. “Either it’s a totally fake charity or the charity is not honest about how the donated money will be used.”

Kittles said it is generally better to stick with recognized charities such as the United Way and American Red Cross or charities which you personally know are legitimate.

“The bottom line is scammers will always find a way to try to take your money,” Kittles said. “Like any other scams out there, you just need to keep your guard up and if something doesn’t seem right then don’t hand over any money and report it to the appropriate authorities.”

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## **FEMA Disaster Recovery Center to Close at Richland County Library’s Main Branch Jan. 13 (ETV Radio)**

By Tut Underwood

[ETV Radio](#), January 13, 2016

The Richland County Disaster Recovery Center at the Richland Library, Main Branch, Closes Jan. 13, 2016

As flood victims get their lives back to a semblance of normalcy and no longer utilize **FEMA**’s disaster recovery centers, they will close as they are no longer needed. The Richland County Library location of the recovery center on Assembly St. in downtown Columbia will close at 6 p.m. Wednesday, January 13, 2016. Two other centers in Richland County, and nine others around the state, will remain open until they are no longer needed.

For those registered with **FEMA**, help and information can still be found at the following:

Help line: 800-0621-3362 or TTY 800-462-7585. Those who use 711/VRS can call 800-621-3362. Lines are open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week until further notice.

Locate the closest disaster recovery center at [asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm](http://asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm)

For the latest information on South Carolina flood recovery operations, visit [scemd.org](http://scemd.org) and **FEMA**. [gov/disaster/4241](http://gov/disaster/4241)

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## **Help Remains Available After Disaster Recovery Center Closes in Columbia (ETV Radio)**

By Alfred Turner

[ETV Radio](#), Jan 11, 2016

The Federal Emergency Management Division reports that a disaster recovery center in Richland County, located in the Richland Main Library, 1431 Assembly St., will close Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 6 p.m.

Many services available at disaster recovery centers are also available by calling the **FEMA** helpline. Survivors of Oct. 1-23 storms and flooding in Richland County can get help by calling 800-621-3362 or TTY 800-462-7585; those who use 711/VRS can call 800-621-3362. Lines are open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week until further notice.

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## **FEMA: Help Remains Available After Disaster Recovery Center Closes In Manning (South Carolina Public Radio)**

By Alfred Turner

South Carolina Public Radio, January 14, 2016

A disaster recovery center in Clarendon County will close Friday, Jan. 15, at 6 p.m.:

Clarendon Community Complex, 7 Maple St., Manning

Many services available at disaster recovery centers are also available by calling the **FEMA** helpline. Survivors of Oct. 1-23 storms and flooding in Clarendon County can get help by calling 800-621-3362 or TTY 800-462-7585; those who use 711/VRS can call 800-621-3362. Lines are open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week until further notice.

Survivors can use the helpline to:

Ask questions about **FEMA** decision letters.

Learn how to appeal **FEMA** decision letters. All applicants may appeal.

Inquire about the status of a registration.

Provide change of address, telephone and bank account numbers and insurance information to avoid disaster assistance processing delays.

Receive information about **FEMA** home inspections.

Get other questions answered about federal disaster assistance.

Applicants should have their nine-digit **FEMA** registration number and zip code if they want to discuss their application.

Survivors may still visit other recovery centers to ask disaster assistance questions. They can locate the closest center by visiting [asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm](http://asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm).

Representatives from the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, **Federal Emergency Management Agency**, U.S. Small Business Administration and other agencies are at centers to answer questions about disaster assistance and low-interest loans.

For the latest information on South Carolina flood recovery operations, visit [scemd.org](http://scemd.org) and **FEMA**. [gov/disaster/4241](http://gov/disaster/4241).

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## Red Cross launches multi-state response to storms (Pickens Sentinel)

Staff Report

[Pickens Sentinel](#), December 30th, 2015

GREENVILLE — The American Red Cross launched a massive relief response across multiple states in the wake of the deadly storms that have been hammering communities across most of the country since before the Christmas holiday.

“Red Cross disaster workers have been helping people affected by these storms since before Christmas and will continue to help them as long as needed,” said Ann Wright, executive director for the American Red Cross of Upstate SC. “We ask everyone to remember these families who have lost everything and had their holiday celebrations tragically interrupted by giving to Red Cross Disaster Relief. We depend on generous financial donations to provide comfort and hope to people in need.”

Several days of tornadoes, flooding and winter storms left behind damaged homes, downed power lines and closed highways. Red Cross and community shelters are open in Texas, Alabama, Georgia, Oregon, Illinois, Missouri, New Mexico and Oklahoma. The Red Cross is also supporting families in Arkansas, Tennessee and Mississippi due to severe weather and flooding.

More than 1,100 homes have been damaged by storms across the affected areas and the number could increase. Hundreds of trained Red Cross disaster workers left their loved ones and homes over the holiday and opened shelters for those affected, providing meals, distributing comfort kits and clean-up supplies and meeting with those affected to help them plan their next steps.

The onslaught of storms plaguing most of the country have resulted in possible flooding and flash flooding along many rivers and has prompted flood warnings for areas of the Upstate. The Red Cross urges people in the path of these storms to get ready now. Information about what people should do to prepare their household for possible flooding, tornadoes, winter storms and other weather emergencies is available at [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).

If flooding occurs

Listen to local radio and television stations for possible flood warnings and reports of flooding in progress or other critical information from the National Weather Service (NWS). People should also:

- Be prepared to evacuate at a moment’s notice.
- When a flood warning is issued for your area, head for higher ground and stay there.
- Stay away from floodwaters. If you come upon a flowing stream where water is above your ankles, stop, turn around and go another way.

• If you come upon a flooded road while driving, turn around and go another way. If you are caught on a flooded road and waters are rising rapidly around you, get out of the car quickly and move to higher ground. Most cars can be swept away by less than two feet of moving water.

- Keep children out of the water.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood danger

The Red Cross will be helping people affected by this storm for weeks and months to come, while at the same time responding to other emergencies, including helping people whose homes are destroyed by fires. The Red Cross responds to nearly 70,000 disasters each year in the United States — the vast majority of which are home fires.

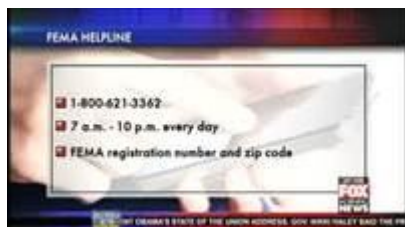


People can help by donating to Red Cross Disaster Relief to support disasters big and small by visiting [redcross.org](http://redcross.org), calling 1-800-RED CROSS or texting the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization — not a government agency — and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [www.redcross.org/sc](http://www.redcross.org/sc) or @RedCrossSC.

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## TV/Radio Clips



(click thumbnail to play)

### FEMA on WFXB (FOX) - Myrtle Beach, SC

01/13/2016 07:08:38

Fox Morning News (News)

... folks recovering from the october flooding... FEMA has a help-line set up... for questions about decision letters...information about home inspections... and other questions ...



(click thumbnail to play)

### FEMA on WHNS (FOX) - Greenville, SC

01/13/2016 07:13:57

Morning News @ 7 (News)

... their army and police forces. michigan's governor is asking for help from FEMA to make sure people ie city of flint have safe water to drink. drink.governor rick snyder has also activated the national ...



(click thumbnail to play)

### FEMA on WBTW (CBS) - Myrtle Beach, SC

01/13/2016 07:27:01

CBS This Morning (News)

... folks recovering from the october flooding... FEMA has a help-line set up... for questions about decision letters...information about home inspections... and other questions ...



(click thumbnail to play)

### FEMA on WACH - COL (FOX) - Columbia, SC

01/13/2016 08:10:04

WACH Fox Good Day (News)

... the center at the library will be closing at 6:00. FEMA officials say even though relief centers are closing, many of the services are still available right now. in fact there's a help ...



(click thumbnail to play)

### FEMA on WHNS (FOX) - Greenville, SC

01/13/2016 08:14:21

Morning News @ 8 (News)

... their army and police forces michigan's governor is asking for help from FEMA to make : people in the city of flint have safe water to drink. drink.governor rick snyder has also activated the national ...



(click thumbnail to play)

#### FEMA on WACH - COL (FOX) - Columbia, SC

01/13/2016 08:34:42

WACH Fox Good Day (News)

... library will close tonight at 6:00. FEMA officials say you can still get help by calling the hotline on your screen. >>> in your health watch this morning, it's not new that what ...



(click thumbnail to play)

#### FEMA on WLTX - COL (CBS) - Columbia, SC

01/13/2016 12:07:38

News 19 @ Noon (News)

... will still be able to speak with a FEMA representative by calling the hotline. the number 800-621-3362. the information is also ...



(click thumbnail to play)

#### FEMA on WYFF (NBC) - Greenville, SC

01/13/2016 17:35:04

WYFF News 4 @ 5:30pm (News)

... chris justus is here with more. chris: we looked at the controversial plan to tie FEMA money to the plan. many felt it was being tied to a political hot button issue of climate change. ...



(click thumbnail to play)

#### FEMA on WCIV-CHS (ABC) - Charleston, SC

01/13/2016 17:48:38

ABC News 4 @ 5 (News)

... assistance to cope with this man made water disaster. FEMA has approved the governor's request to coordinate a recovery plan. the other half of the equation testing for lead. ...



(click thumbnail to play)

#### FEMA on WLTX - COL (CBS) - Columbia, SC

01/14/2016 02:34:15

CBS Overnight News (News)

... quickly. >> reporter: the governor has requested help from FEMA to deal with the problem. almost two years ago, the city tapped into the flint river here for its water. ...



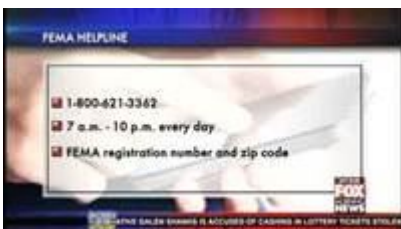
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#### FEMA on WCIV-CHS (ABC) - Charleston, SC

01/14/2016 05:40:21

Good Morning Charleston (News)

... you can still go to s-b-d dot gov slash disaster for help. this does not include FEMA recovery centers. tessa) still ahead-- remember that bear who made his way into a pizza shop? ...



#### FEMA on WFXB (FOX) - Myrtle Beach, SC

01/13/2016 08:08:23

Fox Morning News (News)

... folks recovering from the october flooding... FEMA has a help-line set up... for questions about decision letters...information about home inspections... and other questions ...

(click thumbnail to play)



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FEMA on WLTX - COL (CBS) - Columbia, SC

01/14/2016 03:34:13

CBS Overnight News (News)

... quickly to end the crisis. >> reporter: the governor has requested help from FEMA to deal with the problem. almost two years ago, the city tapped into the flint river here for its water.