

From: Veldran, Katherine

To: Haley Mottel (HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov) <HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov>

Date: 10/13/2015 11:00:41 AM

Subject:

Attachments: FEMA Frequently Asked Questions and Answers.docx

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**From:** Veldran, Katherine

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 10:34 PM

**To:** Veldran, Katherine

**Cc:** Schimsa, Rebecca; Patel, Swati

**Subject:** FW: Flooding Info from the Governor's Office

Members of the General Assembly,

This afternoon, **FEMA approved another five counties for Individual Assistance: Calhoun, Darlington, Florence, Lee, and Kershaw Counties.** Once again, we fully expect more counties to be added as the county-led assessments are completed over the next few days and weeks. Tomorrow, our office will send out Q&A on Individual Assistance.

Below is a Q&A for how to get FEMA public assistance for repairing roads and bridges, including how to conduct the necessary damage assessments in your counties – this is just ONE type of Public Assistance FEMA provides to governmental entities. (Other types of Public Assistance include debris removal, emergency protective measures, water control facilities, buildings and equipment, utilities, and parks, recreational and other facilities.) If you have additional questions about Road and Bridge Repair, our office or DOT will be happy to help.

Road Damage Assistance:

**Q. How does my county get FEMA Public Assistance for repairing roads and bridges?**

A. In order to qualify for FEMA Public Assistance for road and bridge repairs, assessments of the damage must be conducted, and FEMA must approve your county for Public Assistance. Note that many assessments cannot be done until the water has receded so that the conditions are safe for inspection.

**Q. How are road damage assessments conducted?**

A. In general, state road damage is assessed and repaired by a DOT-led team, and county road damage is assessed and repaired by the a county-led team. These teams are usually composed of a representative from the county, state (DOT), and federal government (Federal Highway Administration or FEMA).

**Q. How can my county get help to conduct assessments?**

A. In order to maximize coordination for assistance statewide, DOT has offered its engineers and expertise to assist counties with assessing county road damage. If your county is interested in coordinating assessments with DOT, then your county emergency manager should:

- (1) Submit a request to EMD through Web EOC; and
- (2) Notify DOT that the request has been made.

After the request has been made, DOT will immediately contact the county to begin the coordinated assessments. The faster assessments can be made, the sooner assistance can be provided, so speed is very important.

**Q. Where is DOT already conducting damage assessments?**

A. Teams from DOT can begin assessing damage to state roads in areas where the water has receded and conditions are safe. As of today, DOT has assessment teams deployed in the following counties: Abbeville, Aiken, Calhoun,

Charleston, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington, Fairfield, Kershaw, Laurens, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda, and Spartanburg. For local roads, DOT also has assessment teams deployed in Dorchester, Florence, Newberry, Saluda, and the City of Columbia.

**Q. Where I can find more information about FEMA's Public Assistance process?**

A. FEMA's website has a step-by-step guide to the entire Public Assistance process: <http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-grant-application-process>

Thank you,

Katherine

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**From:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 06, 2015 10:20 PM  
**To:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Cc:** Schimsa, Rebecca; Patel, Swati  
**Subject:** RE: Flooding Info from the Governor's Office

Members of the General Assembly,

**FEMA approved another three counties for Individual Assistance: Berkeley, Sumter, and Clarendon Counties.** Once again, we fully expect more counties to be added as the county-led assessments are completed over the next few days and weeks.

To help answer questions about the FEMA process, today's update is providing you with additional information on the following:

- (1) A two-page overview of the FEMA assistance process thus far in South Carolina. *Note this document does not account for the additional three counties approved today.*
- (2) A one-page flyer to send to your constituents on how to register for Individual Assistance. Even if your county has not yet been approved for Individual Assistance, residents in your county with losses or damages can still apply to see whether they would be eligible.

We understand this process can be confusing, and we would like to be able to answer any questions that you have. If you would like to speak or meet with someone directly to get more information, please let me know.

Thank you,

Katherine

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**From:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Sent:** Monday, October 05, 2015 3:57 PM  
**To:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Cc:** Schimsa, Rebecca; Patel, Swati  
**Subject:** RE: Flooding Info from the Governor's Office

Members of the General Assembly,

Today's update includes information on the following areas:

- (1) Major Disaster Declaration Request
- (2) Preferred Donations
- (3) Timeline of State and Federal Declarations

Major Disaster Declaration Request:

Today, the Governor made a verbal Major Disaster Declaration request to FEMA in order to expedite the process to get federal assistance in South Carolina for public entities and individuals. Our federal partners continue to work with EMD and our office. If approved, South Carolina will be eligible for the following types of federal assistance in the counties of Berkeley, Charleston, Clarendon, Dorchester, Georgetown, Horry, Lexington, Orangeburg, Richland, Sumter, Williamsburg. Other counties will be added as damage assessments qualify.

**Public Assistance** – Cost-share assistance to state and local governments and certain nonprofit organizations for emergency work (Examples: Debris Removal, Roads and Bridges, Emergency Protective Measures; etc.);

See FEMA Fact Sheet: <http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit>;

**Individual Assistance** – Assistance to qualifying individuals for temporary housing or for repairs when a homeowner may not have insurance; See FEMA Fact Sheet: <http://www.fema.gov/recovery-directorate/assistance-individuals-and-households-fact-sheet>;

**Business Assistance** – Assistance to qualifying businesses through the Small Business Administration;

**Hazard Mitigation Assistance** – Cost-share assistance to state and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations for actions taken to prevent or reduce long-term risk to life and property from natural hazards.

As soon as FEMA responds to our request, we will let you know so that you can get information out to your local governments and constituents – this may take several days or a few weeks, but we will keep you updated.

Preferred Donations:

Please direct constituents, businesses, and nonprofits who want make monetary donations to the following organizations, all of which have been or will be assisting the State during this emergency: <http://www.scemd.org/recovery-section/donations-and-volunteers>

Adventist Community Services	1.877.227.2702
American Red Cross of Central South Carolina	1.800.435.7669
Feeding America	1.800.771.2303
Harvest Hope Food Bank	1.803.254.4432
Lutheran Disaster Response	1.800.638.3522
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	1.800.872.3283
Salvation Army	1.800.725.2769
Southern Baptist Convention/Disaster Relief	1.800.462.8657
United Methodist Committee on Relief	1.800.554.8583
United Way of America	1.800.272.4630
United Way of South Carolina	1.803.929.1000

Timeline of State and Federal Declarations:

**Thursday, October 1, 2015:** The Governor declared a State of Emergency and activated the National Guard.

**Friday, October 2, 2015:** The Governor requested a federal disaster declaration in order to get direct federal assistance from FEMA. Also, the Governor ordered that federal requirements for hours of service and size and weight limitations be waived for commercial truck drivers delivering supplies, food, fuel, debris, or other items related to the disaster.

**Saturday, October 3, 2015:** South Carolina was approved for direct federal assistance (supplies, manpower, and other resources for emergency operations).

**Monday, October 5, 2015:** The Governor made a verbal Major Disaster Declaration request in order to expedite federal assistance in South Carolina for public entities and individuals. This request is pending with FEMA.

Thank you,

Katherine

Katherine F. Veldran

Director of Legislative Affairs | Office of Governor Nikki Haley

O: 803-734-5124 | C: 803-767-7583

[KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov](mailto:KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov)

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**From:** Veldran, Katherine

**Sent:** Sunday, October 04, 2015 11:24 PM

**To:** Veldran, Katherine ([KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov](mailto:KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov))

**Cc:** Schimsa, Rebecca; Patel, Swati

**Subject:** Flooding Info from the Governor's Office

Members of the General Assembly,

Below is information for four operational areas of high priority. Each item includes a website where you and/or your constituents can go for more information. We have also included a point of contact for any questions related to issues in your district. *(These points of contact are for official use only, not for the general public.)*

As you know, if you have a request for state assistance in your district, then you must reach out to your county emergency manager -- however, if you have questions or want more information about these priority areas, then you may reach out to these points of contact, which we hope you find helpful.

**(1) High Hazard Dams:**

Layer will be on link from EMD website: <http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=ce064d154109417b8cf7501bffcd02fd&extent=-83.9869,31.6875,-76.8953,35.5916>

POC: Paul Wilson [803-920-2603](tel:803-920-2603)

**(2) DOT Road Closures:**

Available at <http://www.511sc.org/>

POC: Tom Johnson [803-354-2288](tel:803-354-2288) and [johnsonta@scdot.org](mailto:johnsonta@scdot.org)

**(3) Open Shelters:**

Layer will be on link from EMD website: <http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=ce064d154109417b8cf7501bffcd02fd&extent=-83.9869,31.6875,-76.8953,35.5916>

POC: Sele Aligbe [803-465-1657](tel:803-465-1657) and [sele.aligbe@dss.sc.gov](mailto:sele.aligbe@dss.sc.gov)

**(4) Power Outages:**

Links to Duke Energy and SCE&G Outage maps: <https://www.sceg.com/outages-emergencies/power-outages/outage-map> and <http://outagemap.duke-energy.com/ncsc/default.html>

POC: Dukes Scott, ORS (Legislator questions) [803-463-6524](tel:803-463-6524); Tom Allen (other questions) [803-622-5308](tel:803-622-5308) and [tallen@regstaff.sc.gov](mailto:tallen@regstaff.sc.gov)

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**From:** Veldran, Katherine

**Sent:** Sunday, October 04, 2015 1:40 PM

**To:** Veldran, Katherine

**Cc:** Schimsa, Rebecca; Patel, Swati

**Subject:** FW: Flooding Info from the Governor's Office

Members of the General Assembly,

Our office wanted to reach out to you again, to make sure you received your county emergency manager's personal cell number (see contact list attached). If you have any issues in your district related to response operations to the flooding, please call your county emergency manager on their cell phone. If you do not receive a response please contact me or Rebecca Schimsa at 803-429-4561.

Thank you,

Katherine

Katherine F. Veldran  
Director of Legislative Affairs | Office of Governor Nikki Haley  
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**From:** Veldran, Katherine  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 12:06 PM  
**To:** Veldran, Katherine ([KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov](mailto:KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov))  
**Cc:** Haley Mottel ([HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov](mailto:HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov)); Schimsa, Rebecca ([rebeccaschimsa@gov.sc.gov](mailto:rebeccaschimsa@gov.sc.gov))  
**Subject:** Flooding Info from the Governor's Office

Members of the General Assembly,

The Governor wanted to be sure you are kept up to date with information during the State of Emergency for the threat of heavy rainfall and significant flooding.

**If there is an issue in your district** – such as a collapsed bridge, washed out road, or damaged water or sewer system, **please contact your county emergency manager – see contact list attached.** If the operations are beyond the scope of the county, then the county will contact EMD, and the State will provide assistance. Do not contact EMD with a local issue. *The attached contact list is for members of the General Assembly only; please do not share with the public as cell phone numbers are included.*

**Five Helpful Tips to share with your Constituents:**

1. Stay off the roads as much as possible, especially at night – *Beware of low-lying roads that may be flooded, and take caution driving over and under bridges and overpasses;*
2. Do not drive through flooded areas or standing water – *If floodwaters rise around your car, abandon the car and move to higher ground; it is easy for you or your car to be swept away;*
3. Clean and disinfect everything that gets wet from floodwaters – *Wet items may be contaminated with sewage, bacteria, or harmful chemicals;*
4. Elevate furnaces, water heaters, electric panels, power strips, and electronics off the ground or to a higher floor if they are susceptible to flooding;
5. Check on your neighbors and loved ones, especially the sick or elderly – *If your home is flooding, then safely move to a friend's home or a shelter. To request a shelter, please contact your county's emergency management office: <http://scemd.org/who-we-are/county-agencies>*

**For the latest forecast information,** visit the National Weather Service's website: <http://www.weather.gov/>

**For more information about flooding,** visit EMD's website: <http://scemd.org/planandprepare/disasters/faqs>

If you have additional questions, you may contact Rebecca Schimsa in our office at 803-429-4561 or [rebeccaschimsa@gov.sc.gov](mailto:rebeccaschimsa@gov.sc.gov).

Thank you,

Katherine

Katherine F. Veldran

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