HURRICANE IDA RESOURCES



Blue Roof Program through the Army Corps of Engineers (888) ROOF-BLU (888-766-3258) This is a FREE PROGRAM.
There is a simple form on their website



you will need to complete to allow them access to your property. Also, we have some members who are willing to help with tarping.



State of Louisiana Hurricane Updates

Visit gov.la.gov

Here is the Louisiana Hurricane Recovery website: State of Louisiana Hurricane Updates (la.gov) This website includes links to <u>FEMA</u>. Start filling this out NOW! Don't let someone try to claim damage to your home before you. Pre-Register for <u>DSNAP</u>. **Need help with filling out any of these?** Come by the office and we will help you get them completed. Bring a laptop or tablet with you and you can charge it and get this filled out. We also have a couple of spare laptops around as well that can be used.



The <u>Weather Channel</u> is an excellent source for many resources including where to get meals, grocery stores that are open, cooling centers, HUD/Disaster Assistance, FEMA, Homeland Security, Shelter locations, Power Outage info, Charitable organizations, and more.

Hurricane Ida Survivors May Be Eligible for Generator and Chainsaw Reimbursement

Louisiana survivors who purchased or rented a generator and/or chainsaw because of Hurricane Ida may be eligible for FEMA reimbursement. FEMA cannot reimburse equipment paid for by another source, such as homeowner's, flood, or other types of insurance. Duplicate payments or reimbursements for assistance provided by insurance or any other source are prohibited by law. Anyone interested in generator and/or chainsaw reimbursement from FEMA must first apply for assistance. They may do so by going online to DisasterAssistance.gov, downloading the FEMA mobile app or calling the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585). Multilingual operators are available. Applicants who purchase or rent a generator and/or chainsaw between Aug. 26, 2021, and Sept. 25, 2021, may be eligible to receive financial assistance for reimbursement. FEMA <a href="mainto-m

How to Stay Safe After a Hurricane

Dangers from a tropical storm or hurricane do not end with the storm. Lives can be lost in the aftermath of a storm if simple safety rules are not followed.

- Wait until authorities announce it is safe before attempting to return home.
- Know that first responders may be delayed in reaching your community or impacted area for a prolonged period.
- Avoid roads covered by water and/or debris and avoid downed power lines.
- Bring necessities, such as food and water, with you when you return.
- Only use a generator in a well-ventilated area and adhere to all manufacturer instructions.
- Use flashlights instead of candles.
- Check food in your refrigerator for spoilage but keep any water. It may be some time before you can rely on the quality of tap water.
- Keep children and pets inside. If pets must be walked outside, keep them on a leash.
- Watch for snakes and other animals possibly forced into your home by flood waters.
- Wear sturdy shoes and protective clothing during any cleaning. Have a professional check for structural damage to your home, as well as the quality of service from your water, gas, electric, and sewer lines.
- Contact your insurance company to begin the claims process.

Financial Assistance

Be sure to file with your **insurance company** even if you do not think you will meet your deductible. You probably have at least a loss of use claim due to power being out. Most policies are \$300 to \$500 for fridge contents.

Then file with <u>FEMA</u>. You are NOT self-employed. It pulls from your latest IRS return and it is one per household, so your information needs to match. Have SSN and DOB information available for every person in your house. If you are displaced due to the storm, please be sure to fill it out and watch for their email replies. If you got denied, make sure you tried to file with your insurance or follow this article.

You can also file for <u>unemployment</u>. It is just like normal unemployment. Say no to COVID, yes to Disaster due to Hurricane IDA. You will need to know what you made each quarter of last year and may need to provide proof of those wages. I'm trying to put together a guide. You are still employed, you have no work because of the storm. You are NOT self-employed. It appears they are not requiring a waiting week. YAY! But the servers are overwhelmed. The ID.me site is painful and hit and miss as to if things go through quickly or not. I spent 2 hours with a member today trying to make it work and it would not work. Here is a list of <u>frequently asked questions</u> from their site. There is not a bump to unemployment. If you qualify for regular unemployment, then you will get it instead of the DUA (Disaster Unemployment Assistance). The max is still \$247 per week, and it is going to look at your income April 2021 – March 2021.

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Financial Assistance (Cont.)

The Actor's Fund is offering assistance. Here is what you need to apply:

- Most recent checking and savings bank statement, including name, address, and balance totals.
- Proof that you reside in an area impacted by the disaster such as household bill with your name and address.
- Entertainment industry earnings over \$6,500 for three out of the last five years (2015-2020) accepted forms of earnings documentation include: union pension and health statements, W-2 or 1099 forms. Do not include tax returns without W-2's.

The IATSE C.A.R.E.S. <u>Walsh DiTolla Spivak Fund</u> is available for assistance. Individual IATSE members needing assistance should submit a written request to their union's regional office indicating their name and present contact information as well as a brief description of the reason they are seeking assistance. The local union will then forward the request to the Foundation for review by the Foundation trustees.

Please be sure to visit the <u>State of Louisiana Hurricane Updates</u> site for the appropriate links to preregister for Disaster Food Stamps - DSNAP (they haven't started releasing them yet), FEMA assistance, or register for the Blue Roof Program.

This is a great article about renters and landlords' rights during a disaster.