



Federal Emergency Management Agency Designates Counties in North Carolina as Natural Disaster Areas due to Hurricane Helene

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This Presidential disaster declaration allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through [emergency loans](#). Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation, or to refinance certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

1. **Triggering Presidential Designation** [M4827](#):

Impacted Area: North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia

Triggering Disaster: Hurricane Helene that occurred on Sept. 25, 2024, and continuing

Application Deadline: May 28, 2025

Primary Counties Eligible:

- **North Carolina:** Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Clay, Cleveland, Eastern Cherokee, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Lincoln, McDowell, Macon, Madison, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey.

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

- **North Carolina:** Cherokee, Graham, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Surry, Swain, and Yadkin
- **Georgia:** Rabun, Towns, and Union
- **South Carolina:** Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, and York
- **Tennessee:** Carter, Cocke, Greene, Johnson, Sevier, and Unicoi
- **Virginia:** Grayson

2. **Triggering Presidential Designation** [M4829](#):

Impacted Area: South Carolina, Georgia, and North Carolina

Triggering Disaster: Hurricane Helene that occurred on Sept. 25, 2024, and continuing

Application Deadline: May 29, 2025

Primary Counties Eligible:

- South Carolina: Aiken, Anderson, Bamberg, Barnwell, Cherokee, Greenville, Greenwood, Lexington, Newberry, Oconee, Pickens, Saluda, and Spartanburg

Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:

- **North Carolina:** Cleveland, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk, Rutherford, and Transylvania
- South Carolina: Abbeville, Allendale, Calhoun, Colleton, Edgefield, Fairfield, Hampton, Laurens, McCormick, Orangeburg, Richland, Union, and York
- Georgia: Burke, Elbert, Franklin, Habersham, Hart, Rabun, Richmond, and Stephens

More Resources

On farmers.gov, the [Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool](#), [Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance](#) fact sheet, and [Loan Assistance Tool](#) can help you determine program or loan options. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

FEMA offers different assistance programs for individual citizens, public groups including government agencies and private nonprofit organizations. To find the FEMA help you need following a disaster event, visit [fema.gov/assistance](https://www.fema.gov/assistance).

Farm Service Agency:

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