



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

**News Release | South Carolina | October 03, 2024**

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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 [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:**

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

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

**Impacted Area:** North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, 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:**

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

3. **Triggering Presidential Designation** [M4830](#):

**Impacted Area:** Georgia, South Carolina, Florida

**Triggering Disaster:** Hurricane Helene that occurred on Sept. 24, 2024, and continuing

**Application Deadline:** May 30, 2025

**Primary Counties Eligible:**

- Georgia: Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Bulloch, Burke, Candler, Chatham, Clinch, Coffee, Colquitt, Columbia, Cook, Echols, Emanuel, Evans, Glascock, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Lanier, Laurens, Liberty, Lincoln, Lowndes, McDuffie, Montgomery, Pierce, Richmond, Screven, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Ware, Washington, and Wheeler.

**Contiguous Counties Also Eligible:**

- **South Carolina:** Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Edgefield, Hampton, Jasper, and McCormick
- Georgia: Baldwin, Bleckley, Brantley, Bryan, Charlton, Dodge, Effingham, Elbert, Hancock, Long, McIntosh, Mitchell, Thomas, Tift, Turner, Twiggs, Warren, Wayne, Wilcox, Wilkes, Wilkinson, and Worth
- Florida: Baker, Columbia, Hamilton, Jefferson, and Madison

**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://fema.gov/assistance).

### **Farm Service Agency:**

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