

Home Cleanup Assistance. If you need assistance cleaning up damage from Hurricane Ian, call **1-800-451-1954**. Crisis Cleanup will connect you with volunteers from local relief organizations, community groups and faith communities who may be able to assist with:

- Cutting up fallen trees
- Drywall, flooring and appliance removal to curb
- Tarping Roofs
- Debris removal to curb
- Mold mitigation

All services are free, but service is not guaranteed due to overwhelming need. The **1-800-451-1954** hotline will remain open through Friday, Oct. 28, 2022.

Mental Health. Call or text the Disaster Distress Helpline at **1-800-985-5990**.

The national hotline provides free 24/7, crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress. Deaf and hard of hearing ASL callers can use a videophone or ASL Now

SBA disaster loans are now available to businesses and residents in Florida following the Hurricane Ian disaster declaration. Applicants may apply at disasterloanassistance.sba.gov under declaration #17644. For help, call **800-659-2955** or email DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov

The Operation Blue Roof Program will provide a temporary blue covering with fiber-reinforced sheeting to help reduce further damage to property until permanent repairs can be made. After the blue roof is installed, the structure is declared habitable. Not all roof types and locations qualify for the program.

The initial sign-up period will end on Oct. 23. Call toll free **1-888-ROOF-BLU (1-888-766-3258)** or visit bluroof.us for more information.

American Red Cross. If you need a safe place to stay or a hot meal, find open shelters on redcross.org, the free Red Cross Emergency app or by calling **1-800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767)** and selecting the disaster option.

Disaster Legal Hotline. 866-550-2929

Hotline callers may get help with legal issues like:

- FEMA and SBA financial benefits
- Home repair contracts and property insurance claims
- Re-doing wills and other important legal documents destroyed in the disaster
- Price gouging, scams, or identity theft
- Landlord or tenant problems, or threats of foreclosure
- Disability-related access to federal, state, and local disaster programs

Beware of fraud and scams. All FEMA employees carry official identification. Federal and local disaster workers do not solicit or accept money. Report fraud and scams by emailing StopFEMAFraud@fema.dhs.gov or by calling 866-223-0814.

Transitional Sheltering Assistance. The state of Florida and FEMA have activated the Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) program for Hurricane Ian survivors. Survivors who have applied for FEMA disaster assistance may be eligible to shelter in a hotel or motel paid for by FEMA. Call disaster assistance helpline at **800-621-3362**.

Elder Helpline. 1-800-96-ELDER (35337)

DO YOUR DUE DILIGENCE BEFORE HIRING A CONTRACTOR:

•INSURANCE COMPANY INSPECTIONS

If the work being done by a contractor is part of an insurance claim, allow your insurance company to come out and inspect the damages BEFORE you sign any paperwork and BEFORE a contractor starts work.

•CHECK TO SEE IF A COMPANY IS PROPERLY LICENSED, INSURED.

And if there are any consumer complaints filed against a licensed contractor at MyFloridaLicense.com or by calling the Florida Attorney General's Office at **1(866) 9NO-SCAM (1-866-966-7226)**