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News Release

How to Apply for FEMA Assistance if Your Home is a Boat

BRANDON, Fla. - If a boat was your primary residence before and during Hurricane Ian making landfall in Florida – and the boat sustained hurricane damage - FEMA may be able to help. Survivors living in one of the 26 counties designated for federal assistance are encouraged to apply.

You can begin your application online at <u>DisasterAssistance.gov</u>, visit a Disaster Recovery Center or call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. The line is open every day from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. ET. Be ready to provide the physical and complete address of the dock or marina and the slip or mooring number, if the boat was not located on private property.

There are multiple Disaster Recovery Centers operating throughout the impacted area. To find a center close to you, go online to: <u>DRC Locator</u> or <u>floridadisaster.org</u>, or text DRC along with your ZIP Code to 43362.

Living on a boat is a unique situation, but you may qualify for FEMA assistance. However, if you don't provide a slip or mooring number, it may result in your application becoming attached to another boat or boats at the same address. This will cause delays in processing your application. You also cannot use a P.O. Box as your primary address, but you can use it as a mailing address.

The designated counties are Brevard, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Monroe, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, and Volusia.

For the latest information on Florida's recovery from Hurricane lan, visit <u>floridadisaster.org/info</u> and <u>fema.gov/disaster/4673</u>. Follow <u>FEMA Region 4 (@femaregion4) / Twitter</u> and at <u>facebook.com/fema</u>.

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FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, you can call the Civil Rights Resource line at 833-285-7448.