



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - May 30, 2025

Orange County Government received \$219 million in federal disaster recovery funding (CDBG-DR funds) to help communities in hard-hit areas recover from Hurricane Ian. In January 2025, it was announced that the County will receive an additional allocation of \$33 million to address the remaining needs resulting from Hurricane Milton.

Orange County aims to provide our residents and community partners with the most up to date information as the County moves forward with its implementation of the CDBG-DR programs. We encourage you to share this newsletter with your friends, family, colleagues, and anyone else who, you believe, might benefit from this information.

Please visit our website at www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR for more information about the CDBG-DR Program, timeline, and other related information.



Hurricane Preparedness

With hurricane season starting on **June 1**, it's essential to be prepared ahead of time to ensure the safety of your family, home, and community. Below is general hurricane preparedness information based on guidelines from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Red Cross:

1. Understand Hurricane Risks

- Hurricanes bring high winds, heavy rain, storm surge, flooding, and tornadoes
- Coastal and even inland areas can be affected
- Know your area's risk level and flood zones

2. Create an Emergency Plan

- Discuss where your family will go if you need to evacuate
- Know your evacuation routes and local shelters
- Designate emergency contacts both in and out of state
- Practice your plan regularly

3. Build a Disaster Supply Kit

Your kit should include, but not limited to, the following items:

- Water (one gallon per person per day for at least 3 days)
- Non-perishable food (3-day supply)
- Medications and prescriptions
- Baby supplies (diapers, formula, wipes), if applicable
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- First-aid kit
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- Portable phone chargers
- Important documents in a waterproof container (IDs, insurance papers)
- Cash
- Hygiene supplies
- Pet supplies, if applicable

4. Protect Your Home

- Install storm shutters or board up windows
- Secure outdoor furniture and objects that could become projectiles
- Trim trees and shrubs
- Test and fuel your generator
- Ensure your insurance is up to date, including flood coverage

5. Stay Informed

- Sign up for OCALERT [HERE](#)
- Follow the National Hurricane Center (NHC) and local weather services
- Have multiple ways to receive alerts: TV, radio, NOAA Weather Radio, mobile alerts

6. Know When to Evacuate or Shelter in Place

- Follow evacuation orders. Don't wait.
- If you're not in an evacuation zone, shelter in a secure part of your home (interior, windowless room)
- Prepare for power outages and communication disruptions

7. After the Storm

- Return home only when authorities say it's safe
- Avoid flooded roads and downed power lines
- Use generators outdoors and away from windows to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning
- Document any property damage for insurance claims

Orange County Hurricane Expo

Attend the Orange County Hurricane Expo and discover the Power of Preparedness! Connect one-on-one with emergency first responders, hear expert insights from meteorologist Amy Swezey, and pick up free preparedness items while supplies last. Plus, explore booths and resources from a variety of local vendors focused on safety, preparedness, and community support. For more information, call 407-836-9083 or email OEMHurricaneExpo@ocfl.net.

Date: Saturday, June 21, 2025

Time: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Evans High School Gym, 4949 Silver Star Road, Orlando, FL 32808



Orange County Recovers

Was your home damaged by Hurricane Ian?



Orange County's CDBG-DR Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation and Reconstruction program, Orange County Recovers, is open and actively accepting applications. To date, over 200 applications have been received! Case managers are working tirelessly to review all applications and determine eligibility.

If you or someone you know experienced damage from Hurricane Ian and have remaining unmet needs, please apply at [OrangeCountyRecovers.com](https://www.OrangeCountyRecovers.com) or call 321-382-3514.

Next Steps

Once your application has been completed and eligibility has been determined, the next steps are as follows:

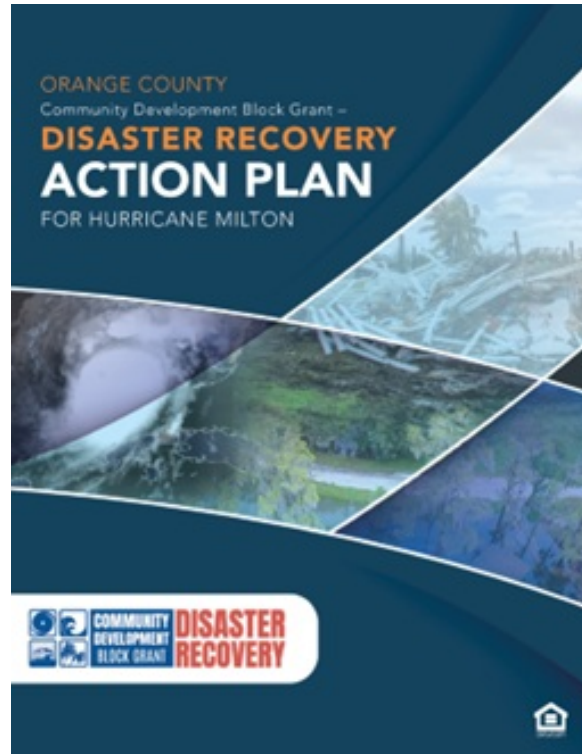
- Damage assessments
- Scope of work determination
- Environmental review
- Contractor assignment
- Begin Construction

REMINDER: You can always check your application status online or call 321-382-3514.

Hurricane Milton Action Plan - Public Hearing

The Orange County Board of County Commissioners will conduct a public hearing for the Hurricane Milton Action Plan on June 3, 2025, at 2 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, in the County Commission Chambers, First Floor, County Administration Center, 201 South Rosalind Avenue, Orlando, Florida.

The Orange County CDBG-DR Action Plan for Hurricane Milton summarizes unmet needs in areas of infrastructure, public facilities, mitigation, housing and economic development related to the long term recovery from the effects of Hurricane Milton. The Plan also summarizes strategies and activities to meet those needs using \$33,357,000 in federal funding from the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). The Plan includes the proposed budget for the CDBG-DR Program that was developed based on the unmet and mitigation needs analysis and community input solicited through a variety of citizen engagement and outreach initiatives.



CDBG-DR Timeline

The full updated CDBG-DR timeline can be found here: www.ocfl.net/CDBG-DR.

Hurricane Ian

- **January 9, 2024:** BCC public hearing for the CDBG-DR Action Plan. Please click [HERE](#) to view the public hearing recording.
- **January 17, 2024:** Orange County submitted the final CDBG-DR Action Plan to HUD for review and approval. Please click [HERE](#) for the final CDBG-DR Action Plan.
- **April 9, 2024:** Grant Agreement for CDBG-DR funds executed between Orange County and HUD.
- **June 17, 2024:** Orange County CDBG-DR Final Public and DRGR Action Plan was reviewed and approved by HUD.
- **Summer 2024:** Program policies and procedures are being developed for the Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning programs.
- **December 5 & 8 2024:** Notice of Funding Availability was posted for the CDBG-DR Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning programs.

- **December 10, 2024:** Request for Applications (RFA) for Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning programs opened.
- **December 11, 2024:** Mandatory Pre-Award Technical Assistance workshops held on the RFA process.
- **January 6, 2025:** The CDBG-DR General Grant Management Services contract was issued.
- **February 5, 2025:** RFAs for Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Mitigation and Planning Studies programs to close.
- **March 4, 2025:** RFA for the Public Services program opened for qualified non-profit organizations.
- **March 5, 2025:** Applications for the Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction program opened.
- **March 13, 2025:** Mandatory Pre-Award Technical Assistance Workshop for Public Services RFA.
- **April 2, 2025:** RFA for the Public Services program will close.
- **April 11, 2025:** Request for Proposals for general contractors to open.
- **Summer 2025 (Tentative):** Prepare to launch the remaining CDBG-DR programs, to include RFAs for Infrastructure and Public Facilities (for non-profit agencies), Planning Studies (the County, jurisdictions, and quasi-governmental agencies), and Housing projects (non-profits and public housing authorities).

Hurricane Milton

- **April 15, 2025:** Draft Hurricane Milton Action Plan posted for public comment.
- **May 15, 2025:** Public comment period for the Hurricane Milton Action Plan to close.
- **June 3, 2025:** Public hearing for the Hurricane Milton Action Plan will be conducted by the BCC.

More information will be available in our next newsletter, coming soon!

Stay Tuned!

Help us spread the word about CDBG-DR

[Sign Up for our Newsletter Here](#)

Connect with us on our social media



Questions? Thoughts? Suggestions?

We are here to help! Contact us here:
Disaster.Recovery@ocfl.net



Try email & social marketing for free!