



## Hurricane Helene Response – Report 6

Oct. 6, 2024

### Staff Deployed

- 48 Forestry staff, 10 transports, 9 dozers, 1 UTV, 1 skid steer
- 3 Agricultural Crime Unit Officers
- 1 Animal Health staff
- 3 Emergency Services Coordinators

### Highlights

- Forestry crews continue to clear roads and rights-of-way and support fuel deliveries in Carter, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington Counties.
- TDA is maintaining a list of resources to address livestock needs and continuing to monitor county requests through TEMA.
- Commodities staff are assisting in coordination of food and feeding sites for citizens and first responders in Carter, Cocke, Greene, Unicoi, and Washington Counties.
- Food Safety staff are organizing 2-person teams to begin canvassing affected areas on Monday. They will provide educational materials and guidance on how to safely resume operations.
- TAEP annual enrollment is currently underway. However, staff are working to accommodate affected farmers in Carter, Cocke, Grainger, Greene, Hamblen, Hawkins, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington Counties\* and will allow a second TAEP application period Dec. 2-6 for applicants who live in those counties.

*(\*counties align with Governor Lee's request for disaster declarations and public assistance)*

### How To Help

The Northeast Tennessee Disaster Relief Center is open at the **Bristol Motor Speedway**. This center is the home base for recovery efforts and a major donation reception center in the aftermath of the devastating floods. The center is operating from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. This center does not replace the donation centers that have been established by counties. For more information, including a list of requested and prohibited items, [visit TEMA's website](#).

Primary agricultural and animal needs are dog food, cat food, cat litter, sweet feed, cattle feed, goat feed, swine feed, rabbit feed, chicken feed, crack corn, square bales of hay, 5-gallon buckets, and water troughs. Donations of those supplies are being accepted at the following locations:

### **UT Knoxville – College of Veterinary Medicine**

Brehm Animal Science Arena

2506 River Drive | Knoxville, TN 37996

Hours: Oct. 9 & 10, 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

Contact: (865) 974-8387 or [Home](#) | [College of Veterinary Medicine](#)

**Items Accepted: dog food, cat food, cat litter, livestock feed, hay (NO ROUND BALES)**

### **Fender's Farm**

254 TN-107 | Jonesborough, TN 37659

Hours: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Contact: Shelby Blevins (423) 895-1015

**Items accepted: horse feed, cracked corn, sweet feed, livestock feed, 5 gallon water buckets, lids for water buckets**

### **Appalachian Fair Grounds**

100 Lakeview St. | Gray, TN 37615

#### **Call for hours**

Contact: Joseph Redman (423) 833-1461 or Steven Huff (423) 620-1965

**Items Accepted: livestock feed, agricultural supplies, hay (round bales and large loads of square)**

### **Wilson Livestock Market**

695 Morrell Springs Rd. | Newport, TN 37821

Hours: Daily from 9 a.m. – Noon

Contact: Randy Hodge (865) 414-7801

**Items Accepted: hay, fencing supplies**

### **Erwin Moose Lodge**

50 Jones Road | Erwin, TN 37650

#### **Call for hours**

Contact: Doug Manson (423)-737-3651 or (423) 743-9955

**Items Accepted: dog food, cat food, livestock feed**

### **Johnson County Equine and Agriculture Association**

5328 Hwy 67 | Mountain City, TN 37683

#### **Call for hours**

Contact: Tony Randazzo (423) 607-1167 or Billy Ward (423) 895-3517

**Items Accepted: see their [Facebook](#) page**

Disaster relief questions should be directed to the **Disaster Hotline (423) 830-2696** daily from 8 a.m.- 6 p.m. ET. This hotline is available for community members, donors, and national or international organizations seeking information or requiring specific logistical considerations about disaster relief efforts.

For additional donation and volunteer information, visit [www.tn.gov/tema/updates/hurricane-helene.html](http://www.tn.gov/tema/updates/hurricane-helene.html) and click on “Volunteer and Donation Information.”

### **Guidance**

People who need **immediate resources or assistance** should contact their local Emergency Management Agency: [www.tn.gov/tema/prepare/regional-ema-contacts.html](http://www.tn.gov/tema/prepare/regional-ema-contacts.html).

Farmers who need **recovery resources** should work through USDA: [www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/hurricane](http://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/hurricane).

The **Crisis Clean-Up Hotline (844) 965-1386** has been established for survivors to access free assistance with clean-up efforts.

If you or a loved one needs someone to talk to, there is a national **Disaster Distress Helpline (800) 985-5990**. It's available 24/7 to all U.S. residents who are experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters. Learn more on their [website](#).

The Tennessee Department of Transportation recommends using the **TDOT Smartway** app and website for current road closures and alternative routes. Learn more at [TDOT SmartWay](#).

**Retail Food Stores** – See [Restaurants and Grocers Reopening After Hurricanes and Flooding](#) for guidance. Additionally, if your store is without water, it's essential to activate your emergency procedures immediately. If you cannot access potable water, all food preparation must stop and only prepackaged foods can be sold. Your commitment to food safety ensures the well-being of your customers. If you have questions, please call (615) 837-5193.

**Produce Growers** – [See Resources for Human and Animal Food Producers Affected by Flooding](#), [Guide to Assess Flood-Affected Crops](#) and [Food Safety for Flooded Farms](#) for guidance. If you have additional questions, please email [produce.safety@tn.gov](mailto:produce.safety@tn.gov) or call (615) 837-5193.

We continue to share information and resources on our website: [www.tn.gov/agriculture/topic/emergency-response---resources.html](http://www.tn.gov/agriculture/topic/emergency-response---resources.html).