

March 30, 2023 DR-4673/4680-FL MA-096 State News Desk: media@em.myflorida.com FEMA News Desk: 407-548-6055 | FEMA-DR-4673-4680-FL-Newsdesk@FEMA.DHS.gov

Media Advisory

FEMA Experts Now Offering Rebuilding Tips in Charlotte, DeSoto and Lee Counties

LAKE MARY, Fla. - FEMA continues to add sites to its roster of locations offering free mitigation advice. As part of a continued effort to help Floridians rebuild from Hurricane Nicole and Hurricane Ian, FEMA will offer free advice in Charlotte, DeSoto and Lee Counties starting March 30. The information will focus on how to rebuild stronger and safer against storms.

WHERE: HOME DEPOT

Charlotte County 12621 S. McCall Road Port Charlotte, Florida 33981 Hours: 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Saturday 8: a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday

ACE HARDWARE

DeSoto County Ace Hardware 1009 N. Brevard Ave. Arcadia, Florida 34266 Hours: 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Saturday 8: a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday

HOME DEPOT

Lee County 2508 Skyline Blvd. Cape Coral, Florida 33914 Hours: 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Saturday 8: a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday

While at each location, FEMA mitigation specialists will answer questions and offer free home improvement tips and proven methods to prevent and lessen damage from future disasters. Mitigation is an effort to reduce the loss of life and property damage by lessening the impact of a disaster. The information is geared for do-it-yourself work and general contractors.

In addition to receiving in-person advice, Hurricane Nicole and Hurricane Ian survivors can call the FEMA Mitigation Line to speak with mitigation specialists. The number is 833-336-2487 and is available Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. ET.

For the latest information on Florida's recovery from Hurricane Ian, visit <u>floridadisaster.org/info</u> and <u>fema.gov/disaster/4673</u>. For Hurricane Nicole, visit <u>fema.gov/disaster/4680</u>. Follow <u>FEMA Region 4</u> (@femaregion4) / Twitter and <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.