

MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

NEWS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUBJECT: HURRICANE FLOYD DISASTER DONATIONS SHIFT FOCUS

(Jackson) – For states impacted by Hurricane Floyd, the disaster donations have been overwhelming and generous, but officials in North Carolina and Virginia have asked that donations be directed to specific activities.

In North Carolina, a 400,000 square-foot warehouse, along with three other warehouses, are brimming from donated goods from across the nation, including those from Mississippi. Among the donated items: about 1.4 million gallons of bottled water.

“That’s almost as much water as what caused a lot of our flooding,” said North Carolina spokesman Tom Hegele. “The generosity of the American people is a wonderful thing to see, and people from all over have been so sincere in their giving. We are grateful to all who have donated.”

However, with many areas of donated goods at high levels in both states, emergency managers there have asked that giving now take the form of cash donations. Both states, through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), have asked supporting states to direct would-be donors to contact donations hotlines before sending contributions in order to coordinate disaster supplies.

In North Carolina, the Governor’s Hurricane Floyd Disaster Relief Fund hotline is toll-free at 1-888-835-9966. People should call the North Carolina Donations Hot Line toll-free at 1-888-786-7601 before organizing donations drives. In Virginia, the toll-free donations number to call is 1-877-245-5513. The American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and other non-profit volunteer agencies active in disasters also accept cash donations for disaster relief efforts directed toward these two states.

Goods shipped without a volunteer agency and contact person identified, and coordinated through donations managers in each state will be sent to a relief storage area and might not be used at all.

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