



Benzie County Office of Emergency Management

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If someone was impacted by the April 10, 2026 – April 21, 2026 severe storms, tornadoes, or flooding in any of the recently declared jurisdictions (DR-4925-MI) and they are in need of in-person assistance –

Specialists from FEMA and the Small Business Administration (SBA) will be available in Benzie County along with other designated Michigan Disaster Recovery Centers (MI DRCs) to help survivors apply for [FEMA's Individual Assistance \(IA\)](#) and SBA disaster loan programs, upload documents, check application status, and learn about ways to make their property more disaster-resistant, and get questions answered in person.

If someone is unsure if their damage or circumstance is eligible for consideration – It costs nothing to connect with the right resources

Survivors don't need to visit an MI DRC to apply for FEMA assistance. IA can be [applied for online](#) and through the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m.

Low-interest disaster loans are also available through the SBA. For additional information on low-interest SBA loans or the application process, affected residents can visit the [MySBA Loan Portal](#), a MI DRC, or call 1-800-659-2955 to apply.

Deadline for assistance applications is August 31, 2026, with some extenuating circumstance options available.

MI DRC for Benzie County is:

LOCATION: Former Benzonia Township Hall & Fire Station

ADDRESS: 1020 Michigan Ave. Benzonia MI

HOURS: OF OPERATION: 9AM – 6PM

DATES: 7/31/2026 – 8/3/2026

Additional References:

- FEMA may provide Serious Needs Assistance, Displacement Assistance, Home Repair Assistance, Rental Assistance, Personal Property Assistance, Transportation Assistance, Medical and Dental Assistance, and Funeral Assistance for eligible applicants.
- **Other Needs Assistance (ONA)** – Carbon Monoxide Detector, chainsaw, dehumidifier, generator, humidifier, smoke detector, weather radio, Wet/Dry Vac
- **Clean and Sanitize Assistance (CSA)** (see IAPPG, Chapter 3, Section II), CSA is limited to \$300 per eligible household and CSA will be awarded as a one-time payment. Applicants must meet the following conditions, in order to receive CSA:
 - 1. The pre-disaster primary residence is in an area designated for Individual Assistance.
 - 2. Based on a FEMA inspection, the applicant has disaster damage recorded or, for renters, noted clean-up actions are needed or have been taken.
 - 3. The damage is not covered by the applicant's insurance.
 - 4. FEMA determines the applicant's disaster-damaged primary residence is safe to occupy.
- **Essential Needs** – Michigan United Way 211-Disaster survivors seeking emergency food, shelter, clothing, crisis counseling, rental, or utility assistance
- **Crisis Counseling** – Michigan.gov, 888-535-6135, Emotional support services. Directory of crisis lines and mental health services
- **Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS)**- Division of Consumer Protection investigates consumer complaints regarding those who are having difficulty settling a situation with an insurance company, agent, or adjuster. 877-999-6442, 517-284-8800
- **Legal Services-Michigan State Bar – Pro Bono Initiative** - Information and referrals to attorneys providing free or reduced fee legal services to individuals affected by a disaster (800-968-1442, 517-346-6300)