

Disaster Recovery Centers Resume Normal Hours after Holidays

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ST. CROIX, Virgin Islands – Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) throughout the U.S. Virgin Islands will resume normal hours on January 2, 2018.

DRCs will be open **Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** and **Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

DRCs offer in-person support to individuals and business owners. Recovery specialists from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will be at the centers to talk about assistance and to help anyone who needs guidance in filing an application. FEMA encourages everyone affected by hurricanes Irma and Maria to register for assistance.

After January 1, seven recovery centers will be open across the territory from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- St. John
 - Cruz Bay at the U.S. Virgin Islands Legislature, St. John Annex, 1D Cruz Bay
 - Coral Bay at the Town & Country Building, 8-1 Estate Emmaus
- St. Croix
 - Christiansted at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 38-44 Castle Coakley
 - Frederiksted at the Rotary Club West, 40 KA-KD Estate LaGrange
 - Christiansted at the Old Post Office Building at Church and Company streets
- St. Thomas
 - Charlotte Amalie at the former Scotiabank, 81 CC&DD Kronsprindsens Gade
 - Charlotte Amalie at Tutu Park Mall, 4605 Tutu Park Mall, Suite 233

Survivors have until the **January 8, 2018 deadline** to register with FEMA for assistance and apply for SBA disaster loans for homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes. Survivors with connectivity may register at



DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling **800-621-3362**. Individuals who have a speech disability or hearing loss and use TTY should call 800-462-7585 directly. Those who use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS) may call 800-621-3362.

These toll-free telephone numbers operate from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. (local time) seven days a week. Operators are standing-by to assist survivors in multiple languages.

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*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at **800-621-3362** (voice, **711/VRS** - Video Relay Service) (TTY: **800-462-7585**). Multilingual operators are available (press 2 for Spanish).*

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

Following major disasters, the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is the primary source of Federal funds for long-term recovery assistance. This assistance is in the form of low-interest loans and is available to non-farm businesses of all sizes, private nonprofit organizations, as well as homeowners and renters with property damaged by the disaster.

For official information on the recovery effort following the hurricanes, please visit www.informusvi.com or www.usviupdate.com. Follow us on social media at twitter.com/femaregion2 and www.facebook.com/FEMAUSVirginIslands.

*To donate or volunteer, contact the voluntary or charitable organization of your choice through the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) at www.nvoad.org. For those who wish to help, **cash** donations offer voluntary agencies the most flexibility in obtaining the most-needed resources and pumps money into the local economy to help businesses recover. The Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands also has the "Fund for the Virgin Islands" at*



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