

Citizens' Guide to Drought and Recovery Resources – April 2025

Program	Agency/Entity	How It Works / Website
2-1-1 Referral Service	First Link	Individuals contact 2-1-1 for assistance and receive referral to federal, state, local/tribal and community recovery programs. http://myfirstlink.org/
Conservation Reserve Program (Emergency Haying or Grazing)	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	Emergency haying and grazing of CRP acreage may be authorized to provide relief to livestock producers in areas affected by a severe drought or similar natural disaster. Producers establish long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion, and enhance wildlife habitat. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-program/emergency-haying-and-grazing/index
Consumer Protection Assistance	N.D. Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Hotline	CPAT receives complaints, investigates and prosecutes consumer fraud cases, mediates individual consumer complaint, provides consumer fraud education, and serves as a clearinghouse for identity theft prevention, complaints, and victim assistance. https://attorneygeneral.nd.gov/
Craft Emergency Relief Fund (CERF+)	Craft Emergency Relief Fund Artists Emergency Resources	Applicants complete application form and provide documentation to substantiate losses and career as a professional artist. CERF+ provides grants, no-interest loans, access to resources, waivers and discounts on booth fees, and donations of craft supplies and equipment. https://cerfplus.org/get-relief/apply-for-help/craft-emergency-relief-fund/
Disaster Health Services	American Red Cross	Red Cross health and mental health volunteers travel to disaster sites to provide first aid treatment for injuries, monitor the well-being of survivors and replace prescription medications or eyeglasses. www.redcross.org
Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	Producers, through Farm Service Agency, apply for four categories of assistance: livestock death losses caused by an eligible loss condition; livestock feed and grazing losses that are not due to drought or wildfires on federally managed lands; losses resulting from the additional cost of transporting water to livestock due to an eligible drought; losses resulting from the additional cost associated with gathering livestock for treatment related to cattle tick fever. https://www.fsa.usda.gov/resources/programs/emergency-assistance-livestock-honeybees-farm-raised-fish-elap

Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development	Water transmission line grants up to \$150,000 are for construction of waterline extensions, repairs to breaks or leaks in existing water distribution lines, and related maintenance necessary to replenish water supply. Water Source grants up to \$500,000 are for construction of a new water source, intake and/or treatment facility. http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants
Emergency Conservation Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	The county FSA committee determines, with concurrence from the State FSA committee, to make the program available in the county. https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/emergency-conservation/index
Emergency Farm Loans	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	The FSA provides loans to producers to restore or replace essential property; pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year, pay essential family living expenses, reorganize the farming operation and refinance certain debts, excluding real estate. https://www.fsa.usda.gov/resources/programs/emergency-farm-loans
Emergency Forest Restoration Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	Owners of non-industrial private forests, through the Farm Service Agency, apply for assistance to restore disaster-damaged forests. http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/emergency-forest-restoration/
Emergency Watershed Protection Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service	The program requires public and private landowners have a project sponsor to receive financial and technical assistance to remove debris from streams, channels, road culverts and bridges; reshape and protect eroded banks; correct damaged drainage facilities; establish cover on critically eroding lands; repair levees and structures; and repair conservation practices. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/
Federal Crop Insurance	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Risk Management Agency	Crop insurance provides comprehensive protection against weather related causes of loss and certain other unavoidable perils that may result in low yields, poor quality, delayed planting, replanting, and inability to plant. In addition, some plans of insurance also protect the insured against price declines. https://www.rma.usda.gov/about-rma/fcic
Fisheries Disaster Relief	U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Eligible applicants, agencies of state government or fishing communities, apply for the grant, which focuses primarily on assessing the economic and social effects of a commercial fishery failure, restoring the resource affected by a disaster, or initiating projects or other measures to alleviate harm which may have been incurred as a direct result of a fishery resource disaster arising from a natural disaster. https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/funding-financial-services/fishery-resource-disaster-assistance https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/funding-and-financial-services/fisheries-finance-program

Food Assistance for Disaster Relief	U.S. Department of Agriculture	State agencies notify USDA of the types and quantities of food that relief organizations need for emergency feeding operations, FNS supplies food to disaster relief organizations such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army for mass feeding or household distribution. FNS also authorizes States to provide D-SNAP benefits. https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster
Insurance Assistance	N.D. Insurance Department	Claimant contacts the N.D. Insurance Department to request assistance with filing, processing and appealing claims. https://www.insurance.nd.gov/
Livestock Forage Disaster Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	Producers apply through FSA to receive LFP payments for drought are equal to 60 percent of the monthly feed cost for up to five months. LFP payments for fire on federally managed rangeland are equal to 50 percent of the monthly feed cost for the number of days the producer is prohibited from grazing the managed rangeland, not to exceed 180 calendar days. https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/livestock-forage/index
Livestock Indemnity Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	Producers apply through the FSA for benefits if they have legally owned the eligible livestock on the day they died. The livestock must also: have died due to an eligible weather event, which occurred on or after October 1, 2011, and no later than 60 days from the end date of the event. Livestock must have been raised for commercial use in a farming operation on the day they died. https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/livestock-indemnity/index
Mediation Services	ND Department of Agriculture	Mediation is a voluntary, confidential process in which a neutral mediator guides the parties who are involved in a dispute through a thorough examination and discussion of the issues. The mediator also helps the parties identify possible solutions. https://www.ndda.nd.gov/divisions/business-marketing-information/north-dakota-mediation-service
NDSU Extension Drought Website	NDSU Extension	Website with click through links https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/drought/
Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	Crops must be non-insurable and commercially produced agricultural commodity crops for which the catastrophic risk protection level of crop insurance is not available https://www.fsa.usda.gov/resources/programs/noninsured-disaster-assistance-program-nap
North Dakota Livestock Drought Resources	NDSU Extension	Website with click through links https://www.ndsu.edu/agriculture/ag-hub/ag-topics/disasters/drought/livestock

North Dakota Department of Water Resources Cost-Share Program	North Dakota Department of Water Resources	Sponsors of local projects apply to the Department of Water Resources for funding for such projects as pre-construction expenses, water supply projects, flood control, rural flood control, recreation, irrigation and bank stabilization. https://www.dwr.nd.gov/pdfs/cost_share_program_flyer.pdf
Single Family Repair Loans and Grants	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development	Direct loan and grant for repair/replace roof, winterizing, purchase or repair heating system, structural repair, water/sewage connect fees, etc. http://www.rd.usda.gov/
Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	Producers, through Farm Service Agency, apply for assistance for at least 10 percent production loss due to a disaster in declared counties. Those outside declared counties apply for losses greater than or equal to 50 percent of the normal production. https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/sure_2011.pdf
Farm and Ranch Rural Stress	ND HHS Behavioral Health, NDSU Extension	North Dakotan farmers and ranchers experiencing stress related to drought are encouraged to explore the Managing Stress resources page of the NDSU Ag Hub website. ND Health and Human Services' Behavioral Health Division provides a comprehensive array of mental health services and how to access them on their website. https://www.ndsu.edu/agriculture/ag-hub/ag-topics/farm-safety-health/managing-stress https://www.hhs.nd.gov/behavioral-health/find-services
Tree Assistance Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	FSA provides funding for orchardists and nursery tree growers suffering losses in excess of 15 percent mortality. https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/tree-assistance-program/index

Updated April 2025