



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Temporary Housing

USACE MISSION

As the nation's primary federal engineering agency, Americans rely on the Corps of Engineers' response during natural disasters and other emergencies. Throughout the Nation's history, citizens have relied on the Army to respond to their needs in disasters. In a typical year, the Corps of Engineers responds to more than 30 Presidential disaster declarations, plus numerous state and local emergencies. Emergency responses usually involve cooperation with other military elements and Federal agencies in support of State and local efforts. The Corps of Engineers conducts its emergency response activities under two basic authorities: the Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Act (P.L. 84-99, as amended) and the Stafford Disaster and Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288, as amended). Under the Stafford Act, the Corps supports the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in carrying out the National Response Plan, which calls on 27 Federal departments and agencies to provide coordinated disaster relief and recovery operations. Under this plan, the Army has the lead responsibility for public works and engineering missions.

Assistance under the Stafford Act is provided only when state, regional and local resources are exhausted. Local governments must request assistance through the Regional Unified Command Structure or appropriate state channels. The Corps of Engineers can deploy Local Government Liaisons (LGLs) to impacted Regional Unified Command centers and/or counties to provide information about recovery missions and for coordination assistance.

Under the Federal Response Plan and at FEMA's direction, the Corps assists FEMA in providing temporary housing for disaster victims. The Corps assistance could include, but may not be limited to: technical assistance, design and development of new trailer/mobile home parks; purchasing, hauling, and installing travel trailer/mobile homes for new trailer/



Family ready to move into travel trailer.

mobile home parks, private home sites, and for existing travel trailer/mobile home parks. The Corps assistance may also include engineering and construction management services to do all work necessary to upgrade and renovate existing trailer parks as required to accept travel trailers/mobile homes in numbers and types determined by FEMA. In extreme situations The Corps may assist by designing and constructing life support centers (tents). FEMA typically asks the Corps to provide temporary housing support when all other resources for occupancy have been exhausted. If the local governments cannot provide sites, then FEMA may also ask the Corps to lease sites on behalf of FEMA. This may include leasing and operation of a staging area to gather and redirect housing units to sites. In assessing sites for installation of temporary housing, availability of water, sewer, refuse, phones, mail, and other necessities are considered. ADA compliant units are available. Utilities must be present at individual home sites. Normally temporary housing units are provided for 18 months with maintenance of units provided. Purchasing land for temporary housing sites is not permitted.



A family's temporary home.

Under normal circumstances Temporary Housing is executed at 100% Federal cost and 0% local cost. Individuals must apply for temporary housing assistance through FEMA and eligibility of the request is determined by FEMA. FEMA policy determines standards such as the size of the lot, width of roads and common space. Congressional directives can expand or modify the level of assistance that can be provided to local government.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Local Government

- Assist FEMA in determining requirements, including where, what, when, how.
- Request assistance through appropriate state channels to ensure state and regional resources are exhausted.
- Provide necessary permits and licenses.
- Provide real estate support to include land for logistics staging areas.
- Provide technical advisor and consultant to USACE PRT.

State Government

- Validates, consolidates, and prioritizes local government requests.
- Provides regulatory support, guidance, and oversight.

FEMA

- Validates eligibility and priority of State government requests.

- Validates scope of work and performance criteria of how fast, how much, how often.
- Approve applications for temporary housing.

USACE

- Issues and manages temporary housing contracts to execute assigned mission.
- Acquire temporary housing units as directed by FEMA.

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

- Who will provide rights of entry/hold harmless document?
- Will existing sites or new sites be used?
- Where will new sites/parks be located?
- What will be the sizes (number of pads) of the new sites/parks?
- What utility and jurisdiction services are available to support new sites/parks?
- Are waivers to be provided for code and zoning relief?
- Who will provide NEPA and environmental clearances?
- Who will provide state Historical Preservation services?
- What are the processes for each aspect of the mission and briefly show an example of each?
 - Develop requirements
 - Site assessment and planning
 - Site development (construction)
 - Installation
- How many days before the temporary housing must be in place?
- At what point should new temporary housing cease to be developed?



US Army Corps of Engineers
Galveston District

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Gus Marinos,
Chief of Emergency Management
409-766-3956

www.swg.usace.army.mil/corpshurricaneponse