

# Tornado Recovery Resources for Menasha Residents



Information current as of October 15, 2026. Programs change often. Call before you go. If a resource is not listed please contact Andrew Dane at 920 967-3651

## START HERE

| Organization                                  | Programs and amounts                                                                             | Contact                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>211 / United Way Fox Cities</b>            | Free, 24/7 help finding housing, food, financial assistance, cleanup and health services.        | Dial 211<br>211wisconsin.communityos.org<br>United Way: 920-954-7210, 1455 Midway Rd, Menasha |
| <b>Winnebago County Tornado Resource Page</b> | County's running list of tornado resources: debris drop-off, permits, food, mental health, pets. | winnebagocountywi.gov/990                                                                     |

## FEDERAL HELP (FEMA): APPLY NOW

FEMA approved a federal disaster declaration (DR-4949-WI) on October 7. Individual Assistance is available to homeowners and renters in Winnebago County.

| Program                           | What it offers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | How to apply                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>FEMA Individual Assistance</b> | Help for homeowners and renters with uninsured damage to a primary home. Can cover rental assistance and temporary lodging, basic home repairs, an initial flexible payment for immediate needs, personal property, medical, funeral, childcare and vehicle costs, moving and storage, and accessibility repairs.<br><br>Deadline to apply: December 7, 2026. Apply now. | File your insurance claim first, then apply:<br>DisasterAssistance.gov<br>(Spanish: DisasterAssistance.gov/es)<br>FEMA App<br>800-621-3362<br>Relay service users: give FEMA your relay number |

|                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Have ready when you apply</b>                        | Phone number, mailing address and email. Address of the damaged home. Social Security number. A general list of the damage. Annual household income. Bank details for direct deposit. Insurance policy number or company. | Same ways to apply as above                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Had an assessment visit in August?</b>               | A visit from an assessment team in August is not an application. You still need to apply.                                                                                                                                 | Same ways to apply as above                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>SBA disaster loans</b>                               | Low-interest SBA loans for homeowners, renters, businesses and nonprofits with disaster damage.<br>Deadline to apply: December 7, 2026.                                                                                   | <a href="https://sba.gov/disaster">sba.gov/disaster</a>                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Disaster Unemployment Assistance (Wisconsin DWD)</b> | For workers and self-employed people who lost work because of the storm and do not qualify for regular unemployment. Apply for regular unemployment first.<br>Deadline to apply: December 7, 2026.                        | <a href="https://my.unemployment.wisconsin.gov">my.unemployment.wisconsin.gov</a><br>DUA hotline: 608-318-7100                                                          |
| <b>IRS tax deadline relief</b>                          | Federal tax deadlines that fall between July 27, 2026 and February 1, 2027 move to February 1, 2027. Applied automatically by address.                                                                                    | <a href="https://irs.gov/newsroom/tax-relief-in-disaster-situations">irs.gov/newsroom/tax-relief-in-disaster-situations</a><br>Tax questions: a tax preparer or the IRS |

## MONEY FOR RECOVERY COSTS

| Organization                                                                | Programs and amounts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Contact                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>LEAVEN</b>                                                               | One-time financial assistance from the Community Response Fund. Amount set case by case. Covers insurance deductibles, temporary housing, transportation, replacing belongings, lost income. Apply online; no walk-ins.                                                                                            | 920-738-9635, ext. 2 (help with the form)<br><a href="mailto:leaven@leavenfoxcities.org">leaven@leavenfoxcities.org</a><br><a href="https://leavenfoxcities.org/tornado-relief">leavenfoxcities.org/tornado-relief</a><br>1475 Opportunity Way, Menasha |
| <b>People of Progression</b>                                                | Same fund, same kinds of costs, with a focus on home repairs. Bring proof of your primary address.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 920-815-9487 (call or text)<br><a href="https://peopleofprogression.com">peopleofprogression.com</a><br>333 First St, Suite A, Menasha                                                                                                                  |
| <b>REALTORS Association of Northeast Wisconsin, Fox Valley Storm Relief</b> | Grants up to \$1,000, from a \$150,000 relief pool. Owners: a mortgage payment. Renters: hotel costs, new-lease costs, or temporary housing.                                                                                                                                                                       | Application and checklist: <a href="https://ranw.org">ranw.org</a> (RANW Foundation, Disaster Relief)<br>Jennifer Sunstrom,<br><a href="mailto:jsunstrom@ranw.org">jsunstrom@ranw.org</a>                                                               |
| <b>Community First Credit Union</b>                                         | Emergency relief loan, \$500–\$5,000 at 0% for up to 24 months, payments deferred up to 90 days (members as of July 28, 2026).<br>Repair loan, \$500–\$30,000 at 3.50% APR for up to 60 months (new and existing members).                                                                                         | <a href="https://communityfirstcu.org">communityfirstcu.org</a><br>920-830-7200                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Verve Credit Union</b>                                                   | CARES loan for people impacted by the tornadoes. 12 months at 0% APR, or 24 months at 2.99% APR. No payments for 90 days, but interest still accrues. \$59 processing fee waived. Address verification required. Terms may change without notice.                                                                  | 920-990-2506 (disaster recovery line)<br><a href="https://verveacu.com/relief">verveacu.com/relief</a>                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity, Almost Home</b>            | One-on-one help getting mortgage-ready, for a Habitat home or a home on the open market: budgeting, saving, debt and credit. Open to the public, no income limits. Strongly encouraged if you are facing hard choices about repairing, rebuilding or buying. Participants hear early about new homebuyer openings. | 920-954-8702<br><a href="https://foxcitieshabitat.org/almost-home">foxcitieshabitat.org/almost-home</a>                                                                                                                                                 |

## HOME REPAIR AND REBUILDING

| Organization                                                                         | Programs and amounts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Contact                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity, Tornado Rock the Block 100</b>      | Roofs, windows, doors and other exterior repairs to get homes ready for winter. Owner-occupied primary residence, uninsured or underinsured, within income limits (for example, \$133,800 for a family of four).<br><br>No interest and no monthly payments; repaid when the home is sold or the owner moves. First come, first served; goal of 100 homes by December 15. Not a volunteer program. | Kayla, 920-544-7856<br>kaylak@foxcitieshabitat.org<br>foxcitieshabitat.org/tornadorecovery |
| <b>Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity, Home Repair</b>                     | Critical repairs for owner-occupied homes north of County Hwy GG in Winnebago County: roofs, structural, electrical, plumbing and heating. Done by contractors, not volunteers. Within income limits (for example, \$82,900 for a family of four in Winnebago County). Help may be a referral, direct funding or a 0% deferred loan. Tornado damage: start with Rock the Block 100 above.          | 920-954-8702<br>foxcitieshabitat.org/home-repair                                           |
| <b>Wisconsin DHS Lead-Safe Homes Program (Habitat works directly with the State)</b> | Lead-safe repairs such as new windows and doors and repainting, at no cost to owner-occupants. For homes built before 1978 where a child under 19 or a pregnant woman lives or regularly visits and is on, or eligible for, Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus. Property taxes must be current.                                                                                                           | 608-267-9191<br>DHSLeadSafe@dhs.wisconsin.gov<br>dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead/lshp.htm           |
| <b>Habitat ReStore, "No One Rebuilds Alone"</b>                                      | Windows, doors, cabinets, fixtures, furniture and tools at pay-what-you're-able prices with proof of residence. Through November 14.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 5402 W Integrity Way, Appleton<br>920-830-8400                                             |
| <b>City of Menasha Community Development</b>                                         | Raze (demolition) permits, fees waived. Questions on rebuilding in the floodplain. Call your insurer before any work starts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 920-967-3610                                                                               |

## HOUSING AND SHELTER

| Organization                                                   | Programs and amounts                                                                                                                                             | Contact                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Pillars</b>                                                 | Crisis housing, shelter and help finding stable housing.                                                                                                         | 920-734-9192 · pillarsinc.org<br>605 E Hancock St, Appleton                                            |
| <b>HUD housing counselors</b>                                  | Housing counseling from HUD-approved counselors, linked from FEMA's disaster page.                                                                               | fema.gov/disaster/4949                                                                                 |
| <b>Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity, Homebuyer</b> | A path to an affordable Habitat home for households within income limits. You can ask now about the next application cycle and learn about available properties. | Family Services: 920-967-8898<br>FamilyServices@foxcitieshabitat.org<br>foxcitieshabitat.org/homebuyer |

## INSURANCE

| Organization                                             | Programs and amounts                                                                                                                                | Contact                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance</b> | Free help when a claim is stuck or denied. Check that an adjuster or contractor is licensed before signing anything. FEMA does not charge to apply. | 1-800-236-8517 ·<br>oci.wi.gov |

## FOOD, BASIC NEEDS AND PETS

| Organization                    | Programs and amounts                           | Contact                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>St. Joseph Food Program</b>  | Groceries and personal care items.             | 1465A Opportunity Way, Menasha<br>Mon and Wed 9 AM–noon; Tue<br>and Thu 11 AM–1 PM             |
| <b>Salvation Army, Appleton</b> | Food pantry and daily lunch.                   | 130 E North St, Appleton · Pantry<br>Mon–Fri 8:30–10:30 AM; Sun-Sat<br>lunch 11:30 AM–12:30 PM |
| <b>Unforgettable Underdogs</b>  | Free pet food and supplies, three days a week. | 852 Plank Rd, Menasha<br>920-710-1191                                                          |

## SOMEONE TO TALK TO

| Organization                                              | Programs and amounts                         | Contact                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Winnebago County Crisis Line</b>                       | 24/7, free.                                  | 920-233-7707, or call or text 988                            |
| <b>FEMA Disaster Distress Helpline</b>                    | 24/7 counseling for stress after a disaster. | 1-800-985-5990 (call or text)<br>disasterdistress.samhsa.gov |
| <b>Winnebago County Human Services, Behavioral Health</b> | Counseling and mental health services.       | Neenah 920-727-2882<br>Oshkosh 920-236-4700                  |