



When disasters impact a region, communities are at the front-line, focused on helping citizens while navigating the support and resources available from governments, volunteer organizations, faith-based groups, and non-governmental agencies. At Dewberry, our focus is on helping communities by making them stronger, better prepared, better trained, more resilient, and financially stable after any disaster event.

We have an unmatched understanding of the issues disasters can cause, having responded to over 350 disasters since 1992, supporting all levels of government and private sector clients.

We have supported jurisdictions at every phase of an event. We offer communities the country's most experienced disaster response and recovery contractor backed by full architectural and engineering support services.

From FEMA-required paperwork and procedures through the development of designed repairs and the supervision of the post-event reconstruction of your community, we can help you through every phase of the disaster recovery process.

Dewberry can help make your community whole again.

Pre-Disaster Preparations

- Pre-disaster planning, training and exercises
- Debris management planning and implementation
- Storm impact forecasting and modeling
- Flood mapping and risk mapping for preparedness
- Geospatial support for disaster planning
- Evacuation and sheltering planning and implementation

Post-Disaster Response

- Initial damage assessments
- Road and bridge safety inspections
- EOC surge support personnel
- Debris volume/type assessments
- Develop debris operations plans
- On-site GIS support

Post-Disaster Recovery

- FEMA public assistance grant support
- Hazard mitigation grant program support

- Post-event after action development
- Structural inspections
- Emergency permitting and structural repairs
- Stormwater/flood analysis, repairs, and recommendations
- Slope failures and erosion control
- Scour evaluations
- Shoring design
- Utility repairs
- Beach erosion and stabilization
- Evaluation and operational assessment of water/wastewater facilities
- Substantial damage estimation
- Code enforcement
- On-site GIS support
- Environmental and historical preservation assessments

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Identifying Additional Reimbursements

After tropical Storm Lee in 2011, no reimbursements or project development had occurred in the Borough of Middletown, Pennsylvania, for over four months after the storm. We were hired by the Borough to manage their disaster recovery operations.

Based on the Borough's original damage assessments, we identified 50% more damages and costs that were eligible for reimbursement by FEMA, raising their tally from \$800 thousand to \$1.2 million. We processed all documentation and negotiated settlements for all grant applications for both the public assistance and hazard mitigation programs. Hazard mitigation grants are being processed amounting to over \$2.5 million additional revenues to the Borough.

Managing Disaster Recovery

In the summer of 2012, Fairfax City, Virginia, suffered from a small but severe storm event, resulting in a federal disaster declaration. The city had originally identified \$171 thousand in damages and costs resulting from the storm. With the help of Dewberry those identified damages and costs were raised to \$240 thousand with a net increase of about \$60 thousand. This resulted in a return on investment of over 6:1 by using Dewberry to manage their disaster recovery services; and the grant management process was completed in less than 60 days. Further, the city was able to focus on their primary goal of rebuilding the city's infrastructure and support services, rather than FEMA programmatic and administrative requirements.

Lending Expertise on Grants

A local rural electric cooperative (REC) in Virginia identified over \$2.4 million in damages following the straight-line winds and debris from the 'derecho' storm in 2012. The REC had no in-house experience or capabilities for managing their paperwork requirements to submit reimbursement requests to FEMA. The REC was preparing to write-off the disaster-related damages when we approached them with a proposal to provide 'cradle-to-grave' services to manage and implement all aspects of FEMA-required documentation and programmatically required processes.

We completed all grant applications on behalf of the REC in less than two months. We were able to track our costs in a manner that also made 75% of our fee reimbursable from FEMA, allowing the REC to recoup the full federal share of \$2.4 million in reimbursements, with an out-of-pocket cost of only about \$15,000. Further, we volunteered our expertise to the REC in other FEMA programs, resulting in the submittal of a hazard mitigation grant application to improve the preparedness of the REC for future storms, amounting to over \$4.3 million. Additionally, the REC was able to concentrate their full-time staff on their normal duties during this period, rather than shifting to the labor-intensive efforts of the FEMA reimbursement process.