



The map above shows the Eastern Kentucky region that experienced severe flooding in late July 2022. The counties between/around Jackson, Pikeville and Hazard were hit the hardest. 14 Counties have been declared an emergency by the government.

One of the greatest needs is for volunteers to “muck and gut.” “Muck” means removing all the mud and wet contents of a home—obviously this is an extremely dirty job. Once the “muck” part is completed, then it is time to “gut.” This means removing the wet insulation, wet sheet rock, base cabinets, duct work for the HVAC system, interior doors and whatever else is deemed damaged beyond repair. This will hopefully allow the structure to dry. Both “muck” and “gut” are physically demanding jobs and require protective equipment.

Many people are asking, “What can I do to help?” The answer is “Go be a volunteer.” Please consider going, maybe as a Sunday School class or a family or a church group. Choose a date then pick an agency or a county then call them to work out details and just go (they all need help)—it will be one of the best decisions you will ever make!

Below is a partial list of the agencies/groups where you can sign up to help. Some are doing only on-line registration.

Wolfe County/Campton: Call Marcus Stephens, Emergency Management Director, at 606-668-3040, to get details of jobs needed and housing.

Pike County/Pikeville: Call Doug Tackett, volunteer coordinator, at 606-432-0210 for details of jobs. I believe they can provide housing or refer to someone who can assist with housing.

Floyd County/Prestonsburg: Call Missy Wells at 606-791-7837.

(When you call these people, leave a message and let them call you back at their convenience.)

www.crisiscleanup.org : This is for **groups only**. Register on line and follow their instructions.

www.allhandsandhearts.org: Individuals or small groups register on line and follow their instructions. You will need to complete a background check at a small cost to you. They provide housing and food.

Email patti.clark@ky.gov or amy.potts@ky.gov if you are able to provide behavioral health or mental health volunteers and they will share with you the process to be approved and welcomed to KY.

Electricity and water service are slowly and steadily being restored to this region. State Roads are mostly in good shape but many county roads remain “use with caution” due to water damage. Many stores/businesses were also flooded and are closed while they clean-up.

2022 Eastern KY flooding, ways to volunteer

Other ways you can help:

1. Pray for those who live and work in Eastern KY—they face incredible stress right now. They also have anxiety when it thunders and rains. Please ask God to limit the amount of rainfall this region receives over the next months.
2. Pray for the volunteers: Pray for travel mercies, for good rest after hard days of work, for their health/safety to be protected.
3. Offer to pay for gas/food for volunteers that are traveling.
4. Plan fund raisers with the money going to Eastern KY flood victims. Most of them did not have flood insurance.
5. Give money to One Great Hour of Sharing, specifically targeting Eastern KY Flood victims.

A future state-wide group trip will be offered so watch for details of that in the near future.

When you return from your trip, will you please share your experience with me? I would love to hear your stories!

If there is any way I can help you, please contact me.

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