



## Situational Update 2

October 03, 2024

**Emergency services-** We continue to appreciate the tremendous response from our local first responders and from our partners at the State and Federal level. Partner agencies on the ground in Yancey County include the Sheriff's Offices from Stanly, Catawba, Chatham, Alamance, Wayne, and the Stanfield Police Department, the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, FEMA, and the North Carolina National Guard.

Yancey County EMS Director had ordered an ambulance strike teams and now has 13 total units to augment the current staffing and respond to increased calls for service as well as increased response and transport times.

The Blue Ridge Regional Hospital is still up and running, they are operating on generator but fully operational.

There is a Field Hospital at the Burnsville Fire Department. There are Physicians, NP, Nurses and Paramedics that can treat patients or, if needed, an EMS strike team of additional ambulances and Paramedics that can transport patients to hospitals. If you come to the field hospital, the providers can see you and if needed write prescriptions for needed medications.

**Cell phone towers-** Still a work in progress, some of the tower sites are still in working order but access to maintain them and get them back up and running is difficult due to post storm conditions. Crews are actively clearing and improving roadways to these sites to allow access for essential crews.

**Pod sites-** Today (10/03/2024) we have transitioned to one centralized POD located at Altec, 150 Altec Rd, Burnsville, NC distributing water, MRE's, and ice.

**Shelter sites-** Blue Ridge Elementary School has reached capacity and we've opened a second shelter location at Cane River Middle school. If needed, we can also open a third site as the needs arise. These sites are being managed and staffed by the American Red Cross.

**Electric service-** Is beginning to come on in areas that are able to safely receive electricity. We remain thankful for our linemen and the tree crews for their tremendous effort while working under some of the most difficult conditions imaginable.

**Water Treatment-** Pumps and pipes are being sourced to arrive for Contractors to be ready to begin the work of getting water to the water treatment plant. Preliminary sites have been identified to set new pumps and lay new lines and the feasibility of getting power to those areas is being assessed.

Public Works crews, with help from local contractors, are making repairs to known breaks in the distribution system. As water is treated the system will have to be brought back online slowly in phases as breaks are identified and repaired. Once reestablished the water must be boiled until the system can be flushed and sanitized. The water will still be usable for showering and flushing toilets.

Please turn your water heater breaker off until water is restored to prevent damage to the heater.

Port-a-Johns and shower trailers have been requested and are expected to be deployed around Town as soon as they arrive.

**Waste water treatment-** The plant is completely offline until major repairs can be completed. Engineers have been brought in to evaluate these issues and expedite repairs.

**Volunteer donations-** All donations are being directed to Mountain Heritage High School at 333 Mountain Heritage HS Road Burnsville, NC 28714.

**Comfort stations-** Mobile laundry facilities are available in the GO Grocery parking lot. Updates regarding the setup of shower and bathroom facilities will be provided as those details become available

**Volunteers-** Anyone wishing to volunteer please meet at the Town Center located at 6 South Main Street at 9:15am each morning.

**### END ###**