



## Kentucky Flooding 2/18/2025

### Office of the Governor

Governor Andy Beshear  
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Frankfurt, KY 40601  
(502) 564-2611

[Welcome - Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear](#)

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Press release on February 17, 2025:

*“Governor says entire state affected by historic flooding, death toll climbs to 11*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (Feb. 17, 2025)** – Today, Gov. Andy Beshear provided an update on severe weather affecting much of the commonwealth.

*“Kentucky, we are still in the search-and-rescue phase as this deadly storm system continues to affect much of our commonwealth,” Gov. Beshear said.*

*“Please continue to stay safe and check in on any vulnerable family members, friends and neighbors.”*

*The Governor said that, as of 9 a.m. Monday, there were 11 confirmed deaths connected to the severe weather. The fatalities include motor vehicle-related deaths of men in Hart and Nelson counties; and floodwater-related deaths of a man in Clay County, a woman and a child in Hart County, three men in Pike County, a woman in Washington County, a man in Hardin County and a man in Floyd County.*

*Ahead of the storm, the Governor [declared](#) a [state of emergency](#). On Saturday, Gov. Beshear requested, and President Donald Trump granted, an emergency disaster declaration for Kentucky.*

*The Governor also launched the **Team Kentucky Storm Relief Fund**. To donate, click [here](#).*

*The Governor was joined at Monday morning’s briefing by Eric Gibson, director of the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management; Jim Gray, secretary of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC); Jeremy Slinker, coordinating officer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and Col. Phillip “PJ” Burnett Jr., commissioner of the Kentucky State Police (KSP).*

**Current Weather Conditions:** *Among the biggest concerns this week is flooding along rivers and creeks. The basins expected to have the heaviest impacts include the Kentucky River, Rolling Fork and Green River. Another snowstorm is*

forecast for Tuesday night through Wednesday, with 2 to 6 inches of snow expected and the highest totals in Western Kentucky.

**Operation Teams:** Federal urban search and rescue (USAR) Teams from Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee are engaged here.

**Power Outages:** As of 10:20 a.m. Monday, a reported 14,416 customers were without power.

**Water Outages:** As of 8 a.m. Monday – Drinking Water: 17,245 customers were without water, and 28,070 customers were under Boil Water Advisories. One water system was offline and 28 systems were under limited operations.

Wastewater: Seven wastewater systems were not operational, and 33 wastewater systems were under limited operation. Nine wastewater plants were experiencing bypasses, and six systems were experiencing discharges from portions of their collection systems.

**Kentucky National Guard:** Currently, 175 soldiers and airmen are engaged in operations, including four from the Indiana Guard.

“Today, we will welcome additional aviation crews from Indiana and Tennessee, strengthening our response to include National Guards from three states,” Gov. Beshear said. “Their mission remains extremely dangerous, yet our guardsmen continue to respond with bravery.”

**Kentucky State Police:** Since the morning of Feb. 15, KSP telecommunicators have answered more than 6,600 calls for service. KSP personnel continue to assist with water rescues and welfare checks in the affected areas.

**Kentucky State Parks:** Currently, 143 people are being sheltered at four Kentucky state resort parks, occupying a total of 72 rooms:

- Buckhorn Lake: 2 adults
- Jenny Wiley: 90 adults, 23 children
- Natural Bridge: 16 adults, 9 children
- Pine Mountain: 2 adults, 1 child

The Governor said more rooms are open and available as needed.

**Kentucky Transportation Cabinet:** Secretary Gray said roads were affected by the storm in nearly all 120 Kentucky counties. State highway closures: 344 from flooding, 14 from mudslides and three from rockslides.

The worst problems are focused in Western, Southern and Southeastern Kentucky, from Paducah to Pikeville.

“About 2,300 Department of Highways personnel remain focused on restoring vital transportation links and keeping Kentuckians safe,” Secretary Gray said. Even as they prepare snowplows ahead of the coming storm, crews across the state are continuing to monitor high water, clear slides and debris and assess road damage as floodwaters recede.

Driver’s license offices in Prestonsburg, Pikeville and Manchester are closed today, with no access due to flooded roads.

**Emergency Shelters:** As of 8 a.m. Monday, 12 emergency shelters were helping those affected by the storms:

- Lee’s College Gymnasium and Jackson City School in Breathitt County;
- Paces Creek Elementary School and Laurel Creek Church of God in Clay County;

- Henderson County Public Library and The Harbor House of Men in Henderson County;
- First Baptist Church in Knox County;
- Lawrence County Community Center in Lawrence County;
- Martin County Middle School in Martin County;
- McCreary County School Gym in McCreary County;
- Senior Center in Owen County; and
- New Life Church in Pulaski County.

**When To Call 911:** If you have an emergency or life-threatening situation, dial 911 for immediate available assistance.

**Rapid Needs Assessment:** If you have immediate needs that are not life-threatening, please complete the [Rapid Needs Assessment Form](#) or call [502-607-6665](tel:502-607-6665). These needs include: power is out or inconsistent; no heat or very little heat; individuals with medical needs or disabilities; no food or unable to cook; no or very little drinking water; unable to leave house due to weather and no transportation; phone issues; unable to leave vehicle; checking on a loved one; and more.

**Emergency Prescription Refills:** Gov. Beshear signed an [executive order](#) allowing Kentucky pharmacists to dispense emergency 30-day refills for any non-controlled medication.

**Safety Tips:**

- Watch your step. Floodwaters often hide sharp and dangerous debris, like broken glass and metal. Floodwater can also be contaminated with oil, gasoline or sewage.
- Wear the appropriate protective clothing and gear such as boots, gloves and safety glasses when moving debris.
- Stay away from electrical utility equipment after a storm, or if it is wet, to prevent being electrocuted. Report any utility issues to your local utility company.
- Flooded homes are hazards. Get a professional to check for loose wires, mold and hidden damage before re-entering.
- Use generators or other gas-powered machinery only outdoors and away from windows.
- Never drive into a road covered with flowing water. One foot of flowing water can sweep a car off the road; two feet will carry away an SUV or pickup. Even six inches of water can knock you off your feet. Never walk or drive through swift water. Turn around, don't drown!
- Respect barricades and posted signage. If you encounter a flooded road, turn around. You're not only putting your own life at risk, but also the lives of first responders.
- If you encounter a dark traffic signal, treat it as a four-way stop.

Drivers are urged to check traffic conditions before traveling at [GoKy.ky.gov](http://GoKy.ky.gov). For additional preparedness tips, visit [kyem.ky.gov](http://kyem.ky.gov)."

## **Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency**

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Kentucky Emergency Management  
100 Minuteman Parkway  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(800) 255-2587

[Kentucky Emergency Management](#)

[Kentucky Emergency Management | Frankfort KY | Facebook](#)  
[KYEM \(@KentuckyEM\) / X](#)

## **American Red Cross**

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Kentucky American Red Cross  
510 E Chestnut St  
Louisville, KY 40201  
(502) 589-4450

[Louisville Area Chapter | Kentucky Region | American Red Cross](#)  
[Kentucky Red Cross | Louisville KY | Facebook](#)

### **Open Shelters:**

Foggertown Fire Dept.  
9988 Highway 638  
Manchester,, KY 40962

Harbor House Christian Men's Center  
804 Clay St  
Henderson, KY 42420

Hazard/Perry County Senior Center  
354 Perry Park Road  
Hazard, KY 41701

Jackson City School  
940 Highland Avenue  
Jackson, KY 41339

Laurel Creek Church of God  
1203 N Hwy 11  
Manchester, KY 40962

Lawrence County Community Center  
205 Bulldog Ln

Louisa, KY 41230

Martin County Middle School  
130 Middle School Dr.  
Warfield, KY 41267

Natural Bridge State Park  
2135 Natural Bridge Rd  
Slade, KY 40376

New Life Church  
222 Murphy Ave  
Ferguson, KY 42533  
Pulaski County

Owen County Senior Center  
118 N Main  
Owenton, KY 40359  
Owen County

Pine Mountain State Resort Park  
1050 State Park Rd  
Pineville, KY 40977

The Station  
128 E. Green St.  
Versailles, KY 40383

Please see the following link for the most updated list for shelters: [Disaster Shelters | Find Shelters | American Red Cross](#).

## **Department of Transportation**

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet  
200 Mero St  
Frankfurt, KY 40622  
(502) 564-4890

[Home | KYTC](#)

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[Kentucky Transportation Cabinet \(@KYTC\) / X](#)

Please see the following link for updated traffic conditions: [GoKy.ky.gov](http://GoKy.ky.gov).

## **United Way/211 Information and Referrals Lines**

These information and referral lines may know of additional resources currently providing assistance, such as food pantries, clothing closets, emergency shelters, and agencies offering financial assistance. Please dial 2-1-1 and provide your zip code and demographic information in order to receive referrals. Information can also be obtained at [Call 211 for Essential Community Services | United Way 211](#).

Kentucky 211  
Dial 211 from your phone  
Text your zip code to 898211  
(844) 966-0906

[Kentucky 211 | Connecting You with the Resources You Need](#)

## **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

(800) 621-3362

[FEMA.gov](http://FEMA.gov)

Please visit the website and click on “*Disaster Declarations*”. If a disaster is declared, please call to apply for assistance by phone, or visit: [Individual Assistance | FEMA.gov](#) to apply online.

## **DisasterAssistance.gov**

[Home | disasterassistance.gov](#)

Offers information about local resources for disasters, including: FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), Red Cross, food, shelter, state emergency management agencies, and hospital locators.

To determine if individual disaster assistance is available through FEMA, please visit the website and enter the address.

To locate your local state emergency management agency for disaster information and updates, please visit: [Search Your Location | FEMA.gov](#)

## **American Red Cross National**

(800) 733-2767

[American Red Cross | Help Those Affected by Disasters](#)

## **National Weather Service**

Weather alerts by state are available at: [Active Alerts \(weather.gov\)](#).

## **The Weather Channel**

Local forecasts and severe weather. Please call or visit the website to locate your local chapter and open shelters.

[National and Local Weather Radar, Daily Forecast, Hurricane and information from The Weather Channel and weather.com.](#)

## **Safe Travel USA**

[SafeTravelUSA](#)

## **National Traffic And Road Closure Information**

[National Traffic and Road Closure Information | Federal Highway Administration \(dot.gov\)](#)

## **Free Help Line**

Optum, a leading health and behavioral health services company, is offering a free emotional-support help line.

The toll-free number, 866-447-3573, will be open Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm CST. The service is free of charge and open to anyone. Specially trained Optum mental health specialists help people manage their stress and anxiety so they can continue to address their everyday needs. Callers may also receive referrals to community resources to help them with specific concerns, including financial and legal matters.

Along with the toll-free help line, emotional-support resources and information are available online at <https://www.liveandworkwell.com>.