

## **Hurricane Recovery Information**

Mississippi - FORTIFIED Home™

https://www.dontgoof.org/reroof/mississippi-hurricane

After a hurricane, it is hard to know where to begin to start rebuilding. Use these resources to rebuild stronger and take advantage of incentives Alabama has in place to encourage owning a resilient FORTIFIED home. Mississippi has <u>FORTIFIED</u> mitigation credits and insurance discounts, a FORTIFIED Roof<sup>™</sup> endorsement for policyholders in the Mississippi Windstorm Underwriting Association (MWUA, or Wind Pool)tax deductions, and funding available. <u>Contact us</u> if you have any questions. You can install a new FORTIFIED Roof<sup>™</sup>, build a FORTIFIED Gold<sup>™</sup> home, and retrofit your home to better protect against floods.

**Apply for FEMA and SBA disaster assistance** - Even if you have insurance, apply for disaster aid at <u>disasterassistance.gov</u>. The Small Business Administration (SBA) can also provide additional funding (up to 20% of a loan) for rebuilding projects that will meet the FORTIFIED Home™ standard.

If you were affected by a Presidentially declared disaster, you might qualify for tax relief by the IRS. Qualifying FEMA disaster relief payments can be excluded from taxable income. Contact a tax advisor.

- irs.gov/uac/tax-relief-in-disaster-situations
- irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/fags-for-disaster-victims-mitigation-payments

**FORTIFIED Discounts** - <u>Mississippi homeowners can save up to 55% on their insurance</u> by re-roofing or building using FORTIFIED.

The Mississippi Windstorm Underwriting Association (MWUA) also provides up to a 30% insurance discount on homes that have been constructed and certified under the FORTIFIED for Safer Living program.

<u>MWUA policies may receive additional insurance discounts</u> for wind mitigation construction in jurisdictions that have been graded with the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) for residential and commercial structures.

**FORTIFIED Roof endorsement** - A free <u>FORTIFIED Roof endorsement</u> is now available through the Mississippi Windstorm Underwriting Association (MWUA) on eligible and renewing policies. The endorsement applies when a covered claim results in the replacement of 50 percent or more of a roof.

**Mississippi's** <u>Individual Assistance (IA) Program</u> provides information on Mississippi's FEMA based support for individuals following a Presidentially declared disaster. This program can provide individuals with support for temporary housing, home repairs, and other essential needs.

<u>Catastrophe Savings Accounts</u> can be set up at any bank and must be labeled for use as a catastrophe savings account by the account owner (not the bank).

Useful website links - FORTIFIED.org and smarthomeamerica.org



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Don't Goof When You Re-Roof® is an initiative of Smart Home America, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.