

How Structural Engineers Can Assist in Natural Disaster Relief Efforts

The recent Hurricanes that have devastated the Gulf Coast of the U.S. and the Caribbean, and the Earthquake that hit central Mexico, have affected millions of lives. The National Council of Structural Engineers (NCSEA) expresses deep concern and sympathy for those devastated by these natural disasters. NCSEA is ready to help and support the first responders, second responders and volunteers who are answering the call to help their neighbors recover.

As Structural Engineers, several opportunities exist for you to assist now and in the future to help these and future communities recover from the devastation of natural disasters. Following are several avenues being offered for you to provide support.

Register as a Second Responder to Perform Post-Disaster Assessment

The NCSEA Structural Engineering Emergency Response (SEER) Committee is currently working with Texas, Florida and other states affected by the hurricanes to assist building officials in securing the second responders they need to perform post-disaster condition assessments of structures. If you have post-disaster training and want to help in the future, register on the NCSEA-SEER Volunteer System at www.ncsea-seer.com.

Webinars to Assist in Response and Recovery Efforts

The Applied Technology Council (ATC) is offering a free two-part recorded webinar on the ATC-45 *Field Manual: Safety Evaluation of Buildings after Windstorms and Floods* to provide information to assist in response and recovery efforts in the aftermath of hurricanes. *Professional Development Hours and certifications will not be offered with these webinars.* [More information can be found here.](#)

ICC Hurricane Harvey Housing Network

The International Code Council (ICC) in conjunction with the Building Officials Association of Texas has established the *Hurricane Harvey Code Heroes Housing Network* to help locate housing for the volunteers performing damage assessments and other code-related duties in southeast Texas after Hurricane Harvey. Send an email to housing@iccsafe.org with the following information if you can help.

1. Your name
2. Your contact information including a cell phone number
3. The address or general location of the available housing
4. The number of people you can house
5. The time frame that the space is available

Red Cross Donations Being Matched

ICC is pledging to match donations up to \$64,000 made in the next three weeks to the American Red Cross for Hurricane Relief. [Click here](#) to donate to the Red Cross today and ICC will match your contribution.

NCSEA is a not-for-profit association based in Chicago, Illinois, whose mission is to advance the practice of structural engineering by representing and strengthening its 44 Member Organizations—state and regional structural engineering associations.

