

Flood of 2015

The rain and subsequent flooding from this past weekend has been very hard on all of us. We at the Division of Early Care & Education hope that everyone is doing as well as possible under the circumstances. We are here for you to answer questions or connect you to resources as we become aware of them. A list of current resources is available at www.scchildcare.org.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can be of help and know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and the children and families you serve.

Do You Need Assistance During this Time of Emergency?

I am a Provider

Call our emergency number (**888-825-7174**) to:

- * Report damage to your facility
- * Report closure due to the emergency/disaster
- * Request expanded capacity to care for children displaced by the disaster

I am a Parent

- * Call SC Child Care Resource and Referral at **888-335-1002** if you need assistance finding alternative child care during an emergency.
- * If you sustained losses or damage from the flooding, call **800-624-3362** to see if you qualify for aid.



Help children cope with loss. Children need to know that adults in their lives are prepared in the event of a disaster. Books can help build resilience and coping mechanisms for children who have

experienced a natural disaster.

Click on these links for helpful tips from the Southern Early Childhood Association:

- ◇ [Book list](#) to help children with natural disasters
- ◇ [How to talk to children about disasters](#)

##SCAM ALERT##

FEMA Inspectors are working in areas impacted by flooding to assist with the recovery process. State and federal workers never ask for or accept money, and always carry identification badges with a photograph. There is no fee required to apply for or to get disaster assistance from FEMA, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) or the state. Additionally, no state or federal government disaster assistance agency will call to ask for your financial account information; unless you place a call to the agency yourself, you should not provide personal information over the phone - it can lead to identity theft.

National Guard is assisting local law enforcement in some areas, such as Richland County. They will be in uniform and must also show their ID when requested. They have been given temporary authority to detain or arrest. Unfortunately, there have been some reports of looting so law enforcement needs a larger presence.

Boil Water Advisory—Restrictions and Tips:

Your water might be clear, but don't drink it.

- ◆ Boil water for one full minute before being used for cooking or drinking
- ◆ Don't use appliances that might require drinkable water (dishwashers, ice machines, drinking fountains)
- ◆ Dispose of ice that may have been made during the boil water advisory
- ◆ Turn on taps to flush out water lines
- ◆ Water is safe to use for showering, shaving, and other cleaning purposes
- ◆ Don't swallow water used to brush teeth unless that water has been boiled
- ◆ Click this [link](#) for more from the City of Columbia.
- ◆ Click this [link](#) for information from DHEC.
- ◆ Click this [link](#) for instructions for businesses from DHEC.

Helpful links

Click on the texts below to be linked with websites containing helpful information

- ◆ [Family & Group Child Care Home Assistance](#)
- ◆ [Child Care Center Disaster Loans](#)
- ◆ [SC Department of Insurance Catastrophe Claims Center](#)
- ◆ [Lost and Found Animals](#)
- ◆ [SC County Closure List](#)
- ◆ [SC Emergency Management Division](#)
- ◆ [DSS Disaster Relief](#)