



Joint Field Office
Madison, WI



FEMA

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Disaster News

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ONE MONTH LEFT FOR WISCONSIN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Madison, Wis. — Wisconsin residents have one month to register for disaster help from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

The deadline for residents to apply for disaster assistance for damages or losses caused by storms and flooding is Monday, September 15, 2008.

“If you live in one of the counties declared eligible for disaster assistance, don’t disqualify yourself for possible aid by failing to register,” said Federal Coordinating Officer Dolph Diemont, who heads the FEMA recovery team. “Even if your losses were minimal, signing up with FEMA by the deadline can put you in a position for possible disaster program funding and other services.”

A toll-free helpline is available between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. every day to take registrations. The number is **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**. Those with a hearing or speech impairment can call **TTY-1-800-462-7585**. Individuals and business owners also can register for help online at www.fema.gov.

FEMA and state recovery aid to residents includes:

- grants for emergency disaster housing and essential repairs;
- grants for necessities not covered by insurance or other sources;
- low-interest loans from the SBA; and
- unemployment benefits, disaster legal services and crisis counseling.

People who have registered with the American Red Cross or other volunteer and civic agencies also must register with FEMA if they want access to the wide array of federal and state aid that becomes available when a major disaster is declared by the president.

Residents in the following 30 counties can register for assistance: **Adams, Calumet, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green, Green Lake, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, La Crosse, Manitowoc, Marquette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Ozaukee, Racine, Richland, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan, Vernon, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha and Winnebago.**

FEMA coordinates the federal government’s role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

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Editors: For more information on Wisconsin disaster recovery, visit <http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov/> or www.fema.gov