



Joint Field Office
Madison, WI



FEMA

July 29, 2008
DR-1768-WI-NR-112

Disaster News

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WISCONSIN DISASTER ASSISTANCE **REGISTRATION CLOCK TO TICK A LITTLE LONGER**

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

Federal Coordinating Officer Dolph Diemont, who heads the FEMA recovery team, said the deadline for residents to apply for disaster assistance for damages or losses caused by storms and flooding is now Monday, September 15, 2008.

“We’re pleased to be able to keep the window of opportunity open for everyone whose property was damaged by the storms,” said Diemont. “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 can also 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.

“There is a great deal to be done after a flood, but no one should be too busy to apply for this valuable state and federal help,” said Administrator Johnnie Smith of Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM). “We can help with your uninsured losses; but if you miss the deadline, you could be denying yourself recovery money.”

(more)

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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