



**FEMA**

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# News Release

## **DISASTER RECOVERY BOOKS AVAILABLE IN BRAILLE AT FEMA CENTERS**

**NEW BERLIN, Wis.** – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) want to make residents of Grant and Milwaukee counties aware that a limited number of disaster recovery guide books are available in Braille at Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs). Three DRCs opened in Wisconsin after President Obama declared both counties eligible for Individual Assistance Sept. 18 to help individuals recover from severe storms, tornadoes and flooding July 20-24.

The Braille recovery books, which include information such as how to apply for disaster assistance, which losses are eligible for coverage and programs that are available to help residents rebuild, became available to the Wisconsin public Sept. 28 for the first time.

“Grant and Milwaukee County residents with visual impairments now have another resource available to help them understand how to recover from severe weather July 20-24,” said WEM Administrator Michael Hinman.

Braille recovery books are among many resources FEMA has developed to assist Grant and Milwaukee County residents with disabilities. A **TTY hotline, 800-462-7585**, is available to help individuals with hearing impairments apply for disaster recovery assistance by phone. A chart of information about how individuals with disabilities can prepare for a disaster is available online: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/specialplans.shtm>. Preparedness resources are also available at: <http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/disabled.html>.

“We encourage Wisconsin residents with or without disabilities to take a few minutes to explore preparedness and recovery resources available online,” said FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer Paul Ricciuti.

Face-to-face recovery assistance is also available at DRCs.

**More**

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Two DRCs are open in Milwaukee County Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

City of Milwaukee Dept.  
of Public Works  
3850 N. 35<sup>th</sup> St.  
Milwaukee, Wis. 53216

Milwaukee Brotherhood of  
Firefighters Association  
7717 W. Good Hope Road  
Milwaukee, Wis. 53223

A DRC is open in Grant County every day from 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., except for Sunday, Oct. 3. The DRC will no longer operate after 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 7.

Lancaster Fire Station  
312 N. Washington St.  
Lancaster, Wis. 53813

Individuals affected by severe weather July 20-24 can log onto [www.DisasterAssistance.Gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.Gov) or call **800-621-FEMA/3362** to register for FEMA disaster assistance.

The deadline for Grant and Milwaukee County residents to apply for Individual Assistance is Nov. 17.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

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