



News Release

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FEMA DEADLINE SET FOR STATE, LOCAL AGENCIES TO APPLY

SUPERIOR, Wis. -- Local government and non-profit agencies that sustained damage during the flooding in July may be eligible for federal disaster assistance and have only a few more days to apply before the September 8th deadline. So far, 90 government agencies from northern Wisconsin have applied for disaster assistance.

Public Assistance (PA) funds for reimbursement or restoration are available in eight Wisconsin counties and one Tribe as part of a presidential disaster declaration for damages by severe storms and flooding occurring on July 11th and 12th, 2016. The counties eligible for public assistance are Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Florence, Iron, Sawyer and Washburn. The tribe eligible for public assistance is The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

These funds are for expenses or damage incurred during the disaster and cover items such as repair or replacement of roads, bridges, utilities, buildings, equipment, schools, recreation areas and other publicly owned facilities, as well as certain private non-profit organizations engaged in community service activities.

PA funds are made available by FEMA on a cost sharing basis with FEMA picking up 75 percent of the eligible costs. The state of Wisconsin and local agencies share the remaining 25 percent.

To apply, eligible agencies and organizations must first submit a one-page Request for Public Assistance (RPA) to the State of Wisconsin by Thursday, September 8th. To date, 90 RPAs have been submitted, but officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) believe other eligible organizations have yet to apply.

Public organizations or private non-profit organizations wishing to apply for PA must complete a form to determine eligibility. The form can be found online at http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov/recovery/public-assistance.asp. Once completed, the form should be faxed to WEM at 608-223-6525 or e-mailed to DMAWEMPublicAssistance@wisconsin.gov.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders and 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.