



FEMA

Private Sector E-News Update

This E-News Update is created by FEMA's Private Sector Division, which is part of the federal response to Hurricane Irene. It includes information on federal and state resources available to help New Jersey business and employees recover from Hurricane Irene. To subscribe/unsubscribe or submit your comments, questions, story ideas and suggested topics, please email: Jean.Meroni@dhs.gov or call 732.918.4091.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE UPDATE

New Jersey Metrics as of Close of Business November 8, 2011

- Individuals and Households Programs total approved disaster assistance\$153,211,385
- U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) total approved disaster loans to:
 - Homeowners and renters.....\$61,516,100
 - Businesses..... \$12,923,000
- New deadlines for FEMA registration and submit SBA loan application..... November 30, 2011

DISASTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 30, 2011

Anyone who suffered disaster-related damage or loss should register for federal and state disaster aid. Registration may be completed online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov, by smartphone through m.fema.gov or by calling FEMA's toll-free registration line at **800-621-3362 (FEMA)**. If you have a speech disability or hearing loss and use a TTY, call 800-462-7585 directly; if you use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362. Multi-lingual operators are available. Telephone registration is available daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., until further notice.

After registering with FEMA for disaster aid, storm survivors are encouraged to visit their nearest Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) for any additional assistance they may need. There are currently six DRCs are open in New Jersey. The DRC located closest to you can be found online at <http://asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm>.

FIRST NATIONWIDE TEST OF THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

As part of their ongoing efforts to keep our country and communities safe during emergencies, the Federal Communications Commission and Federal Emergency Management Agency will conduct the first nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The EAS test plays a key role in ensuring the nation is prepared for all hazards, and that the U.S. public can receive critical and vital information, should it ever be needed. The first nationwide test will be conducted, November 9, at 2 p.m. ET. This test may last up to three and a half minutes, and will be transmitted via television and radio stations within the U.S., including Alaska, Hawaii, the territories of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa. Similar to local emergency alert system tests, an audio message will interrupt television and radio programming indicating: "This is a test." When the test is over, regular programming will resume. For more information about the nationwide Emergency Alert System test, please visit <http://www.FEMA.gov> and <http://www.FCC.gov>. On **November 9 at 2 p.m. ET**, please remember: *Don't stress; it's only a test.*

For more information:

- FEMA Press Release – www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=59396
- FCC Website – <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/emergency-alert-system-nationwide-test>

YOUNG LAWYERS PROVIDE FREE LEGAL HELP FOR HURRICANE SURVIVORS

NEPTUNE, N.J. – A Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) agreement with the Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association (ABA) provides free legal assistance to qualified survivors of disasters like Hurricane Irene.

This assistance helps survivors navigate issues like insurance claims, landlord/tenant concerns, aid with repair contracts and replacement of wills and other important legal document destroyed in the disaster. This legal advice is limited to cases that will not produce a fee because these attorneys work without payment. Cases that may generate a fee are turned over to the local lawyer referral service.

The free legal assistance is provided for individuals who, prior to or because of Hurricane Irene, are unable to secure legal services adequate to meet their needs. New Jersey residents who cannot afford an attorney can call the legal-aid helpline at 888-541-1900 to leave a message requesting free legal assistance related to Hurricane Irene.

The helpline is part of a long-standing agreement between FEMA and the ABA. Storm survivors who qualify for assistance will be matched with New Jersey attorneys who have volunteered to provide free legal assistance.

SIX DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS HAVE CLOSED; REMAINING CENTERS TO CUT SATURDAY HOURS

NEPTUNE, N. J. — The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) announced that Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) in **Bergen, Cumberland, Monmouth, Morris, Somerset, and Union** counties have completed operations and were closed on Wednesday, Nov. 2.

Recovery officials also announced that all other centers – those in Atlantic, Burlington, Essex, Gloucester, Passaic, and Middlesex counties – will no longer be open on Saturday.

The DRCs will close Friday, Nov. 11 for Veterans Day. The centers will reopen Monday, Nov. 14 and resume business hours from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The remaining centers are located at:

Atlantic County Hamilton Mall – Bldg. A 4403 Black Horse Pike Mays Landing, NJ 08330	Essex County Fairfield Community Center 376 Hollywood Ave. Fairfield, NJ 07004	Passaic County Patterson Museum 2 Market St. Patterson, NJ 07501
Burlington County Burlington County College 601 Pemberton Browns Mills Rd. Pemberton, NJ 08068	Gloucester County Gloucester County Government Services Building 1200 N. Delsea Drive Clayton, NJ 08312	Middlesex County East Brunswick Division of Parks 334 Dunhams Corner Road East Brunswick, NJ 08816

“The type of assistance typically provided at a DRC is still available either online or through FEMA’s toll-free Helpline,” said Lt. Paul Miller, the state coordinating officer with the NJOEM.

To find the nearest recovery center, use our [DRC Locator](#).

For the latest news, photos and videos go to: [FEMA/New Jersey Recovery](#).

FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE INCLUDES RIGHT OF APPEAL

NEPTUNE, N.J. — Some New Jersey residents who registered for federal disaster assistance due to Hurricane Irene may not qualify for aid. An appeals process, though, can ensure those affected by the storm will receive all aid to which they are legally eligible.

To date, federal disaster assistance to New Jersey residents has exceeded \$153.2 million, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). That includes more than \$141.1 million in Individuals and Households Program grants for temporary housing and repairs and \$12 million in Other Needs Assistance.

More than 86,000 individuals have registered for assistance. They will be notified in approximately 10 days after registration as to whether or not they are eligible for federal aid. If they are determined to be ineligible for assistance, residents will learn from the letter what steps to take to appeal the decision if they feel that they have damages that have not been addressed.

Appeals must be made in writing and sent by mail or faxed to FEMA within 60 days of the date of the letter of determination. The appeal should include new or missing information, documents and damage repair estimates that support the appeal request.

Mail appeals to:

FEMA – Appeals Officer
National Processing Service Center
PO Box 10055
Hyattsville, MD 20782-8055

Appeals may be faxed to: 800-827-8112

Follow FEMA online at: <http://blog.fema.gov>, www.twitter.com/fema, www.facebook.com/fema, and www.youtube.com/fema. Also, follow Administrator Craig Fugate's activities at www.twitter.com/craigatfema

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.