



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 recovery. It includes information on federal and state resources available to help New Jersey businesses and employees recover from Hurricane Irene. To subscribe/unsubscribe or submit your comments, questions, good stories and suggested topics, please email Susan.Langhoff@dhs.gov or call 732.918.4091.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE UPDATE

New Jersey Metrics as of Close of Business October 20, 2011

- Individuals and Households Programs total approved disaster assistance\$140,174,472
- U.S. Small Business Administration total approved disaster loans to:
 - ▶ Homeowners and renters \$41,722,800 ▶ Businesses \$6,632,700
- **New deadlines for FEMA registration and SBA loan application November 30, 2011**

REGISTER FOR FEMA DISASTER ASSISTANCE

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 **1-800-621-3362 (FEMA)**. If you have a speech disability or hearing loss and use a TTY, call 1-800-462-7585 directly; if you use 711 or video Relay Service (VRS), call 1-800-621-3362. Multi-lingual operators are available. Telephone registration is available daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., until further notice.

FEMA EXTENDS NEW JERSEY DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE

NEPTUNE, N.J. — At the request of the state, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is extending the registration deadline for renters, homeowners and business owners who suffered damage from Hurricane Irene.

Those affected by the storm and flooding, Aug. 27 – Sept. 5, now have until Nov. 30 to register for disaster assistance.

"We've extended the registration deadline for people who – for whatever reason – have not had the opportunity to register for assistance," said William L. Vogel, FEMA's federal coordinating officer. "The goal is to ensure all eligible Irene survivors have the chance to seek assistance."

Disaster assistance to individuals could include grants to help pay for temporary housing needs, essential home repairs and other serious disaster-related expenses not covered by insurance or other sources. Low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) are also available for homeowners, renters and business owners to repair or replace real or personal property.

To date, FEMA has approved more than \$138 million in assistance to disaster survivors, while the SBA has approved nearly \$46 million in disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and nonprofit organizations.

"If you had damage, you must register with FEMA by Nov. 30. Don't think you may not be eligible or feel that you may be taking something away from your neighbor," said State Coordinating Officer Lt. Paul Miller of the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management. "We want to make every effort to reach all survivors and ensure they receive assistance for eligible losses."

Applicants are reminded to keep their FEMA information updated, but not to register more than once. Duplicate registrations will delay processing an application.

SBA OPENS BUSINESS RECOVERY CENTERS IN NEW JERSEY

The U.S. Small Business Administration announced the opening of Business Recovery Centers in New Jersey. These Centers will provide one-on-one assistance to business owners seeking disaster assistance for losses caused by Hurricane Irene that occurred between Aug. 27 and Sept. 5.

“Businesses with physical damages or loss of revenue should seriously consider visiting a Center and applying for an SBA disaster business loan,” said SBA District Director Al Titone. “SBA’s disaster loans provide a way to help businesses get back in operation and the low interest rate and terms help make them more affordable than other types of financing.” To date, SBA has approved over \$48.3 million in disaster loans to New Jersey citizens with disaster related losses to their homes, personal property and businesses.

All Centers opened Tuesday, Oct. 11 and remain open until further notice

NEW JERSEY 2-1-1



NJ 2-1-1 receives calls from individuals looking for information on disaster relief resources. NJ 2-1-1 hosts a resource guide that provides information on federal, state and local programs as well as resources available through all other organizations. These resources are updated on a daily basis. During disasters, NJ 2-1-1

takes all calls from households seeking help with cleanup after flooding. NJ 2-1-1 helps coordinate matching these households with groups working in the state.

Where is 2-1-1 available in New Jersey?

Calls are received from anywhere in the state. You can reach NJ 2-1-1 by dialing 2-1-1 from any landline or cell phone. You can also communicate with a resource specialist through Instant Messaging technology on their web site.

Is there a charge for using NJ 2-1-1?

2-1-1 is offered to the public for free. There is no charge for calling 2-1-1 and speaking with a resource specialist. There is no charge for searching the resource database to find resources in your community. And, there is no charge for using their web site to learn about the health and human service system in New Jersey, how it works, what services are available to help you and who you should call to address the challenges you face.

Who funds 2-1-1 in New Jersey?

This confidential service is supported by local United Way Chapters throughout New Jersey in partnership with the State of New Jersey – Department of Human Services, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, and the Department of Children and Families.

For more information visit the New Jersey 2-1-1 web site at <http://www.nj211.org>.

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT

It's never too early to be prepared for an emergency. To keep your business, employees, family and friends safe and secure, having a plan in place can make the difference. Please take time to review the five preparedness tips below.

- Share cyber security awareness tips with family, friends and employees.
- Update your emergency calling tree, evacuation and business continuity plans with tips from Ready Business.
- Assess your organization's severe weather continuity program with the Continuity Assistance Tool.



- Secure your company equipment and update your inventory list in your emergency operations plan.

In addition to emergency planning, there are steps you can take to both safeguard your company and secure your physical assets.

- **Insurance Coverage** – Policies vary; meet with your provider to review current coverage.
- **Utility Disruptions** – Prepare for extended outages during and after a disaster.
- **Facilities, Buildings & Plants** – Take steps to secure physical assets.
- **Equipment** – Conduct a room-by-room walk-through to determine what needs to be secured.
- **Building Air Protection** – Assess the HVAC system to improve indoor air quality.
- **Cyber Security** – Protect your data and information technology systems.

For more information and tips, please visit the following web sites: <http://www.ready.gov/business>
<http://www.fema.gov/privatesector/tips.shtm>.

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