



FEMA

Disaster News

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MORE THAN \$10 MILLION IN DISASTER AID

Lacey, Wash. –More than **\$10 million** has already been approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Washington residents affected by the severe storms, flooding, mudslides and landslides of early December.

Residents in the nine counties eligible for Individual Assistance under the Dec. 8th declaration and subsequent amendments who suffered damage from the storms are urged to call the toll-free telephone registration number **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** as soon as possible. The TTY number for residents with special speech or hearing needs is TTY **1-800-462-7585**. Hours of operation for registering with FEMA are **8 a.m. to 6 p.m., local time seven days a week**. Residents also can register online at www.fema.gov.

Counties eligible for Individual Assistance are Clallam, Grays Harbor, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Snohomish and Thurston.

Disaster recovery efforts in the last three weeks include:

- **7,294** individuals and households from the nine designated counties have applied for assistance.
- More than **\$10 million (\$10,149,045)** in Housing Assistance has been approved for rental assistance, temporary lodging and housing repairs.
- More than **\$500,000 (\$503,844)** in Other Needs Assistance (ONA) has been approved to cover personal property loss, medical costs and other serious disaster-related expenses not covered by insurance.
- **2,191** visits have been made to the nine Disaster Recovery Centers in the designated counties to meet with recovery experts.
- **4,276** home inspections have been completed.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved more than **\$1 million (\$1,373,600)** in low-interest disaster loans to Washington residents and businesses. The SBA provides low-interest loans to homeowners, renters, private non-profit organizations and businesses of all sizes.

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SBA representatives at all the Disaster Recovery Centers will continue to meet individually with each applicant to provide assistance in completing their disaster loan application, answer any questions about SBA's disaster loan program, and accept completed disaster loan applications. Anyone not able to visit a center should call 1-800-659-2955 for SBA assistance or visit the Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

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.

SBA is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private non-profit organizations fund repairs or rebuilding efforts, and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover uninsured and uncompensated losses and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations.

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Editors: for more information on the Washington disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov or www.wadisasternews.com.