



Joint Information Center
Joint Field Office
Camp Murray, WA



FEMA

February 1, 2009

FEMA-DR-1817-NR03

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Disaster News

FEMA OPENS DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER IN LEWIS COUNTY

SEATTLE— A Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) opens in Lewis County on Monday, Feb. 2 to provide face-to-face assistance to people suffering damages from the Severe Winter Storm, Landslides, Mudslides, and Flooding from Jan. 6 to Jan. 16. Residents of King, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Snohomish, Thurston and Wahkiakum counties were designated for federal individual assistance in the Presidential disaster declaration of Jan. 30, 2009, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials said.

FEMA and the Washington Emergency Management Division (EMD) announced the following DRC location and hours:

Yard Birds Mall

**2100 N National Ave., 2nd Floor
Chehalis, WA 98532**

Opens Monday, Feb. 2

Hours of Operation: Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. (until further notice)

Applicants can register for FEMA assistance by calling, toll-free, **1-800-621-3362 (FEMA)**, TTY 1-800-462-7585, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week, or register online at www.disasterassistance.gov. Registration is available until March 31, 2009.

Individual assistance is available for homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private nonprofits. FEMA offers housing assistance grants; the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, renters and businesses of any size; and personal property grants are available through the federal/state “Other Needs Assistance” program.

Visitors to the DRC will find information on:

- FEMA and State disaster assistance programs
- SBA low-interest disaster loans and how to complete the loan application
- Smart building techniques to reduce damage from future floods, and
- Flood insurance

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When applicants register for FEMA assistance they will be asked: location of damaged property, their Social Security number, a phone number where they can be contacted, a general description of the damages and insurance coverage, and basic financial information to determine the likelihood of supporting an SBA low-interest disaster loan. The telephone interview takes approximately 20 minutes. People should only provide this personal information if they call the center, not if someone calls them claiming to be from FEMA

Disaster Recovery Centers:

Location	Opening Date	Hours	Closing Date
Auburn Supermall (Inside mall – opposite Sam’s Club) 1101 Supermall Way, Suite 1157, 98001	February 1	Sun 9-6 Mon-Sat 9-7	
Yard Birds Mall 2100 N National Ave., 2 nd Floor Chehalis, WA 98532	February 2	Mon-Sat 9-7 Sun 9-6	

FEMA leads and supports the nation in a risk-based, comprehensive emergency management system of preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation to reduce the loss of life and property and protect the nation from all hazards including natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

FEMA’s temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

The Small Business Administration (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 nonprofit 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. For information about SBA programs, applicants may call 1-800-659-2955 (TTY 1-800-877-8339). Homeowners, renters and business owners with questions for the SBA should call the Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (TTY 1-800-877-8339). Homeowners, renters and business owners with questions for the SBA should call the Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955.

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