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# Disaster News

## **DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER TO OPEN IN ELLENSBURG**

**Olympia--** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Washington Emergency Management Division (WEMD) officials announced that beginning this week, Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) will be closed on Sundays. Hours of operation will be 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday thru Saturday.

The DRC in Auburn will be closed after Saturday, Feb. 14:

**Auburn SuperMall  
1101 SuperMall Suite 1157  
Auburn, WA 98001**

Friday, Feb. 13 at noon, FEMA and the state will open a DRC in Kittitas:

**Kittitas County Fairground Western Village  
“Robber’s Roost”  
1010 E 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Ellensburg WA, 98926**

It is not necessary to visit a DRC to register for assistance. Applicants can register for disaster assistance by calling, toll-free, **1-800-621-3362 (FEMA)** (TTY 1-800-462-7585) 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week, or register online at [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov). While it is possible to register at a DRC, FEMA and WEMD officials encourage people to register before visiting.

DRCs provide disaster assistant applicants with one-on-one information regarding:

- Application status
- 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

-more-

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There are currently five other DRC locations in Washington:

**Cowlitz County Training Center (The Boat House)**  
**1942 First Ave**  
**Longview, WA 98632**

**Evergreen State Fairgrounds**  
**14405 179<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Building 501**  
**Monroe, WA 98272**

**Westfield Capital Shopping Center**  
**625 Black Lake Blvd, Suite 374**  
**Olympia, WA 98502**

**South Hill Mall (located near the old J.C. Penny's entrance)**  
**3500 S. Meridian, Suite 940**  
**Puyallup, WA 98373**

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church, basement entrance**  
**324 Jackson Ave.**  
**Raymond, WA 98577**

Residents of following counties are eligible to receive disaster assistance: Benton, Cowlitz, Clallam, Grays Harbor, King, Kittitas, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum and Whatcom.

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*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. 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).*