



Joint Information Center
Joint Field Office
Lacey, Washington

FEMA

Disaster News

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WASHINGTON STATE HOUSING HELPLINE OPENS

Lacey, Wash.—Residents of those counties designated for federal/state disaster assistance as a result of the December severe storms, flooding, mudslides and landslides now have another resource for finding housing. The Washington Housing Resource Helpline will begin operation for those who were affected by the disaster and need help in finding rental housing.

The designated counties are Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific and Thurston. Residents of those counties may call **1-866-233-7643** and get referrals for rental housing in their area. The hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily until further notice. Holiday exceptions: Dec. 24 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Dec. 25 noon to 5 p.m.

Applicants may also go to: <http://www.fema.gov/rebuild/recover/place.shtm>. Click on: Search for information about housing rental resources. Select the state, county, and other search criteria. They may also call the FEMA Helpline listed below or stop by a Disaster Recovery Center.

Officials encourage those affected by the disaster to apply for assistance immediately by going online to www.fema.gov or by calling FEMA's toll-free number, **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. local time Monday through Sunday until further notice. Those with speech or hearing impairments may call TTY 1-800-462-7585.

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.

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