



FEMA

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Recovery News

FEMA TEAMS REACH ACROSS THE STATE OFFERING MESSAGE OF HELP

TRENTON, N.J. – Federal disaster recovery professionals are sweeping across the federally-declared disaster area to alert individuals and families that help is available.

Members of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Community Relations (CR) teams are reaching out across New Jersey to make sure every citizen who suffered damages as a result of Hurricane Irene is assured assistance may be available.

Teams of CR specialists advise residents, business owners, eligible non-profit agencies and faith-based organizations on how to register for disaster assistance and have the ability to provide registration access when there is no other source available. CR teams also work to identify people with special needs, seniors and those with disabilities.

Registering with FEMA is the most important step to securing assistance. “The sooner people register, the sooner we will be able to help those eligible,” said Federal Coordinating Officer William L. Vogel.

Easily identified by FEMA photo ID badges, CR representatives seek out any location where people affected by the disaster might be found. They provide information on how to access recovery resources such as the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), which offers low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes.

Disaster Recovery Centers will be opening in key locations in many counties to offer one-on-one assistance, information on recovery resources, U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest loans, flood insurance, and mitigation.

Online registration is available anytime at www.disasterassistance.gov or by calling **800-621-FEMA (3362)**. Those with access or functional needs and who use a TTY, call 800-462-7585; or, use 711 or Video Relay Service to call 800-621-3362 (FEMA). Hours are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST, until further notice. Multilingual operators are available. You may also access disaster information and recovery resources directly from your smartphone at FEMA’s new mobile website at <http://m.fema.gov/>.

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FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

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