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# Disaster News

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**Joint Information Center:**

FEMA/State News Desk: 229-401-2770

## **DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER TO OPEN IN MCDUFFIE COUNTY**

**CORDELE, Ga.** – The State of Georgia and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today will open a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in McDuffie County for people affected by the March 1-2, 2007, severe storms and tornadoes.

The DRC will be open from **noon until 6:30 p.m. today**. Starting tomorrow, Saturday, March 10, it will be open 8 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. daily until further notice. Location:

**Sweetwater Gymnasium  
180 Sweetwater Park Drive  
Thomson, Ga.**

The new DRC joins four other recently opened DRCs operating from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. seven days per week.

- Serving Mitchell County: 4767 Highway 37 East (in the Emergency Operations Center), Camilla, Ga.
- Serving Taylor and Crawford Counties: 1011 Highway 341 North (Business Center), Roberta, Ga.
- Serving Sumter County: 1607 Martin Luther King Blvd., Americus, Ga. (Gertrude Davenport Building).
- Serving Baker County: 139 Roosevelt Street, Newton, Ga. (former East Baker School).

Disaster victims are urged to register for assistance first by calling **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585** for the hearing- or speech-impaired. Also, victims can register online at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or visit a DRC for more information.

Representatives of the state, federal and voluntary agencies, as well as customer service representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration, are available to answer questions and provide recovery information. Written materials about various assistance programs also are available to individuals and business owners. **FEMA will not issue cash, checks, debit cards or vouchers at the DRC.** The center is for the dissemination of information to assist in victim recovery.

(MORE)

## **DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER TO OPEN IN MCDUFFIE COUNTY – Page 2**

*FEMA manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident, initiates mitigation activities and manages the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA works closely with state and local emergency managers, law enforcement personnel, firefighters and other first responders. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.*

*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, economic status or retaliation. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, you should call FEMA toll-free at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or contact your State Office of Equal rights. If suspicious of any abuse of FEMA programs, please contact the fraud hotline at 1-800-323-8603.*

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Editors: For more information on Georgia disaster recovery, visit [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or [www.gema.state.ga.us](http://www.gema.state.ga.us)