



GEMA



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# News Release

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## **THREE GEORGIA DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS CLOSING FRIDAY**

**ATLANTA** – The three Disaster Recovery Centers operated by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency will close this Friday, Oct. 23, at 7 p.m.

Officials urge residents to go to the centers before Friday to meet one-on-one with specialists to get information or assistance with their recovery from the mid-September flooding.

“We are pleased with the pace of the recovery, but there are people who had damage from the flooding who have not registered for assistance with FEMA and time is running out for them,” said GEMA Director Charley English, who is the State Coordinating Officer. “Registration with FEMA is an essential part of recovering from the flooding.”

Georgians should register for assistance, on the Web at **www.DisasterAssistance.gov**; or by calling **800-621-FEMA (3362)**, or **TTY 800-462-7585**. The toll-free numbers are staffed seven days a week, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Help is available in all languages.

Three U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loan Outreach Centers will open Monday, Oct. 26. The SBA centers will continue serving Cobb, Douglas and Gwinnett county residents as they recover from the September storms and flooding.

The outreach centers will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, until further notice. They will operate at the same locations as the Disaster Recovery Centers.

The following Disaster Recovery Centers will close at 7 p.m Friday, Oct. 23:

- **Cobb County.** The Threadmill, Suite 120, 5000 Austell/Powder Springs Road, Austell, GA 30106
- **Douglas County.** Heritage Baptist Church, 8800 Rose Ave., Douglasville, GA 30134
- **Gwinnett County.** Mountain Park Depot, 5050 Five Forks Trickum Road, Lilburn, GA 30047

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"Even though the Disaster Recovery Centers are transitioning to SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers, FEMA is still helping households in Cobb, Douglas and Gwinnett counties," said FEMA's Federal Coordinating Officer Gracia Szczech. "Applicants with questions or those who need assistance are encouraged to call FEMA's toll-free Helpline **800-621-FEMA (3362)**."

After registration, people can come to one of the three Disaster Recovery Centers to check on the status of their applications, review information needed to process their claim, get help filling out loan applications from the SBA, get lists of places to rent, learn ways to rebuild safely from FEMA mitigation specialists, and meet with experts from other disaster assistance agencies.

After the recovery centers close, information about claims and other forms of assistance will be available by calling the Helpline, or visiting FEMA on the Web.

SBA representatives will be at Disaster Recovery Centers through Friday, and then at the SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers, to answer any questions about the SBA's low-interest disaster loan program for homeowners, renters, and businesses of all sizes. These loans are to repair or replace real estate and/or personal property damaged by the storms and flooding.

Representatives will help complete and accept SBA disaster loan applications. Anyone not able to go to the centers should call the SBA Customer Service Center between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. EDT Monday through Saturday, toll free, at 800-659-2955 for information and assistance, or visit the SBA Web site at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance) or send an email to [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Applicants may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure Web site at <http://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

Many residents and businesses that have registered with FEMA for assistance have received SBA disaster loan applications. Returning completed applications to SBA is a crucial step toward disaster recovery. Homeowners and renters unable to obtain a disaster loan from the SBA may be referred to FEMA for some additional grant considerations. To be eligible for these grants, applicants must submit their SBA loan application even if they do not want a loan. No one is required to accept a loan.

### **SBA Business Recovery Centers**

SBA Business Recovery Centers are open specifically to provide help to businesses. Centers are open Monday through Friday at the following locations:

- **Cobb County:** Powder Springs Library, 4181 Atlanta Street, Building One, Powder Springs, 30127. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- **DeKalb County:** Wesley Chapel-William C. Brown Library, 2861 Wesley Chapel Road, Decatur, 30034. Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.
- **Douglas County:** Douglas County Chamber of Commerce, 6658 Church Street, Douglasville, 30134. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- **Fulton County:** Government Service Center, 7741 Roswell Road, Atlanta, 30350. Open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

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**SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers**

The SBA has already opened Disaster Loan Outreach Centers in other counties for disaster survivors to get one-on-one assistance and to ensure every qualified individual and business receives the help needed to recover from the severe storms and flooding. The hours and locations of the centers already open are as follows:

- **Carroll County:** Carroll County Annex Building, 423 College Street, Carrollton, 30117. Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until further notice.
- **Rockdale County:** Rockdale County Government Annex, 1400 Parker Road, Conyers, 30094. Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until further notice.

The SBA will also open four new Disaster Loan Outreach Centers on Monday, Oct. 19.

- **Cherokee County:** Cherokee County Parks and Recreation Gym, 7545 Main Street, Building 200, Woodstock, 30188. Open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday until further notice.
- **DeKalb County:** Browns Mill Recreation Center, 5101 Browns Mill Road, Lithonia, 30058. Open 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until further notice.
- **Fulton County:** Fulton County Government Center, 141 Pryor Street SW, Atlanta, 30303. Open 8 a.m. through 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until further notice.
- **Paulding County:** Paulding County Administration Building, 240 Constitution Boulevard, first floor, Dallas, 30132. Open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday until further notice.

*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.*

*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.*

*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.*

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For more information on Georgia's disaster recovery, visit [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or [www.gema.ga.gov](http://www.gema.ga.gov) or [www.ready.ga.gov](http://www.ready.ga.gov)/ or <http://twitter.com/GeorgiaEMA> or [www.afcema.com](http://www.afcema.com)