



GEMA

FOR GEORGIA COUNTIES



FEMA

Disaster News

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State/FEMA Media Contact:
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GEORGIA DISASTER RECOVERY: BY THE NUMBERS

ATLANTA – More than **\$5.49 million** in disaster assistance has been approved for south Georgia residents who suffered damage from the March 26-April 13 severe storms and flooding, announced officials with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Recovery information as of close of business June 15 is as follows:

\$3,996,912 has been approved to help disaster-affected Georgia residents with temporary housing, home repairs and other needs through FEMA and state disaster grants programs.

\$1,498,900 in U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) low-interest disaster loans has been approved for homeowners, renters and businesses. **Fifty** loans have been approved so far. SBA loans are the largest source of disaster funds to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property or for making substantial repairs or rebuilding damaged structures to their pre-disaster condition. The low-interest disaster loans are available to homeowners, renters, and businesses of all sizes. The deadline to apply for an SBA disaster loan is June 22, 2009.

83,675 pieces of recovery literature were distributed by FEMA community relations specialists to more than **3,829** individuals and at hundreds of additional locations including schools, local governments, civic organizations, police and fire departments, faith-based groups and businesses.

897 people visited state and federal Disaster Recovery Centers and SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to talk face to face with recovery specialists. **Seven** outreach centers were opened to provide personalized assistance.

1,402 (99.5 percent) of damage inspections have been completed.

1,742 people in the **23** designated counties registered with FEMA for Individual Assistance.

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COUNTY	NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS
Baker	23
Ben Hill	164
Berrien	48
Brantley	55
Brooks	38
Camden	22
Coffee	209
Colquitt	71
Decatur	90
Dougherty	88
Early	157
Echols	15
Lanier	17
Lowndes	172
Miller	61
Mitchell	197
Pierce	43
Tift	143
Ware	20
Worth	92
Montgomery, Tattnall and Wheeler (combined total)	17

June 22 is the deadline to register for disaster assistance. Individuals can apply, ask questions or check an application’s status by dialing FEMA’s Helpline at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585**. The toll-free numbers are available seven days a week, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. until further notice. Help in all languages is available.

People also can register online by visiting www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling the Helpline.

June 22 is also the deadline for applicants who received SBA low-interest loan applications to complete and return them. If the SBA application is not returned, the applicant may not receive other forms of federal assistance. Anyone with questions about SBA disaster loans can get help by calling the SBA Customer Service Center at **1-800-659-2955**.

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.

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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 or www.gema.ga.gov or www.ready.ga.gov/ or <http://twitter.com/GeorgiaEMA>