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Joint News Desk: 573-556-1809

# News Release

## **Two Weeks Remain for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses in Missouri to Apply for Disaster Assistance**

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – Missouri homeowners, renters and businesses that sustained property damage or loss caused by the flooding and storms between April 28 and May 11, 2017 have two weeks left to register and apply for federal disaster assistance.

The deadline to register for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and to apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is **Aug. 14, 2017**.

Two months after Missouri received a major disaster declaration for flooding and severe storms, FEMA has approved \$11.5 million for eligible households in the state. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has paid \$59.6 million to 1,119 policyholders, of which more than \$19 million was paid out before the disaster declaration.

- FEMA grants were approved for 1,846 individuals and families in 35 counties for emergency home repairs, rental assistance, replacement of essential personal property, and help with medical, dental, legal and other disaster-related expenses.
- \$14.4 million in U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) low-interest disaster loans has been approved to homeowners, renters and businesses.
- Twenty-six disaster recovery centers logged 1,930 visits by survivors for one-on-one counseling on available assistance, flood insurance, mitigation methods and disaster loans.
- FEMA mitigation specialists have provided free information, answered questions and offered tips at 41 hardware and home improvement stores on how to repair and rebuild flood-damaged homes stronger and safer.

Survivors should register even if they have insurance. FEMA cannot duplicate insurance payments, but eligible homeowners and renters may be able to receive money from FEMA for losses not covered by insurance to help pay for basic home repairs, temporary rental assistance and other needs such as replacing personal property. FEMA Individual Assistance is grant money that does not have to be repaid.

Survivors are urged to register before the **Aug. 14, 2017 deadline.**

Here's how:

- Call the FEMA Helpline, 800-621-3362. Those who use 711 or Video Relay Services may call 800-621-3362. If 711 is unavailable use MO Relay 800-735-2966; CapTel 877-242-2823; Speech to Speech 877-735-7877; VCO 800-735-0135. Those who use TTY may call FEMA directly at 800-462-7585. Multilingual registration assistance is available. Operators will be available from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. CST seven days a week until further notice.
- Go online to [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov).
- Use the [FEMA app](#) for smartphones.

Survivors who are contacted by SBA regarding a low-interest disaster loan application should complete and submit the application as soon as possible. Returning the application does not obligate the survivor to accept an SBA loan, but it is a necessary step to be considered for other forms of disaster assistance.

SBA offers low-interest disaster loans to businesses of all sizes, most private nonprofit organizations, homeowners and renters. The deadline to apply for an SBA low-interest disaster loan is **Aug. 14, 2017.**

SBA also offers low-interest working capital loans (called Economic Injury Disaster Loans) to small businesses and most private nonprofit organizations having difficulty meeting obligations as a result of the disaster. The deadline to apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan is **March 2, 2018.**

Survivors are encouraged to apply online using SBA's electronic loan application at [disasterloan.sba.gov/ela](http://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela).

For more information, contact SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center by calling 800-659-2955, emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov), or visiting SBA's website at [SBA.gov/disaster](http://SBA.gov/disaster). Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call 800-877-8339.

The federal disaster declaration covers eligible losses caused by severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds and flooding between April 28 and May 11, 2017, in these 35 counties: Bollinger, Butler, Carter, Christian, Crawford, Dent, Douglas, Dunklin, Franklin, Gasconade, Greene, Howell, Iron, Jasper, Jefferson, Madison, Maries, McDonald, Newton, Oregon, Osage, Ozark, Pemiscot, Phelps, Pulaski, Reynolds, Ripley, Shannon, Ste. Genevieve, St. Louis, Stone, Taney, Texas, Wayne and Wright.

Missouri's State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and FEMA are committed to

ensuring services and assistance are available for people with disabilities or others with access and functional needs. People who have a need or a request for reasonable accommodation should let the staff know when they register.

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*For disaster updates from FEMA, go to <https://twitter.com/femaregion7> on Twitter, and turn on mobile notifications. Visit the disaster webpage at [www.fema.gov/disaster/4317](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4317).*

*For disaster updates from the State of Missouri, visit Missouri's recovery website at [Recovery.mo.gov](http://Recovery.mo.gov). You can also follow [@MoPublicSafety](https://twitter.com/MoPublicSafety) on Twitter, and [www.facebook.com/MoPublicSafety/](http://www.facebook.com/MoPublicSafety/) on Facebook.*

*Follow FEMA online at [www.fema.gov/blog](http://www.fema.gov/blog), [www.twitter.com/fema](https://twitter.com/fema), [www.facebook.com/fema](http://www.facebook.com/fema) and [www.youtube.com/fema](http://www.youtube.com/fema). Also, follow Administrator Brock Long's activities at [www.twitter.com/fema\\_Brock](https://twitter.com/fema_Brock).*

*The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps businesses of all sizes, private nonprofit organizations, homeowners and renters fund repairs or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. For more information, applicants may contact SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center by calling 800-659-2955, emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov), or visiting SBA's website at [SBA.gov/disaster](http://SBA.gov/disaster). Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call 800-877-8339.*

*All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status, or retaliation. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, call 800-621-3362 or 800-462-7585(TTY/TDD).*