



State Emergency
Response Team



FEMA

News Release

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\$4.9 MILLION IN FEMA AID ALREADY APPROVED FOR VOLUSIA COUNTY

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – During the three weeks since Volusia County was declared a disaster area eligible for federal help, more than **3,600** of the county’s storm survivors have registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and more than **\$4.9 million** in grants has been approved through the agency’s Individuals and Households Program (IHP).

Here is a summary of disaster assistance to individuals through **June 9, 2009**:

- **\$3,890,711** has been disbursed for housing expenses, including temporary rental assistance, home repair costs and assistance toward replacing destroyed homes (part of IHP).
- **\$1,021,775** has been approved for Other Needs Assistance (part of IHP) to cover expenses and serious needs caused by the disaster (e.g., medical, dental, funeral, personal property, transportation, moving and storage, and other related expenses).
- **2,849** home inspections to confirm disaster damage have been completed.
- Teams of state and FEMA Community Relations field specialists have distributed thousands of flyers and worked in Volusia County to help identify and assist disaster survivors. In the course of explaining the recovery process, they have visited **5,583** residences, **396** businesses and numerous community-based organizations, schools and houses of worship.
- **3,135** visits have been made to the two state/FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs).

Disaster Recovery Centers (open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week until further notice):

Holly Hill Community Recreational Center 1046 Daytona Ave. Holly Hill, FL 32117	Dickerson Center 308 South Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd. Daytona Beach, FL 32114
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At DRCs, federal and state recovery specialists meet one-on-one with FEMA applicants to answer questions and review their applications. Recovery specialists may also be able to supply contacts for other helpful programs.

Storm survivors are encouraged to register for assistance before visiting a DRC, however registrations can be completed at the centers, as well as online at www.disasterassistance.gov; or by calling FEMA’s toll-free registration and helpline at **800-621-FEMA (3362)** or (TTY) **800-462-7585** for people with

speech-or hearing-impairment. Phone lines are open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. local time, seven days a week. Multilingual operators are available.

Homeowners, renters and businesses who receive low-interest disaster loan applications from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) are encouraged to complete and return them promptly. This helps ensure applicants are considered for all forms of disaster assistance they may be qualified to receive.

For more information about disaster loans from SBA, contact the Customer Service Center at **800-659-2955** or **TTY 800-877-8339**. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EDT Monday through Friday. Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure Web site at disasterloan.sba.gov/ela or visit SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

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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.

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.

The Florida Division of Emergency Management and State Emergency Response Team (SERT) coordinates disaster preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation programs with all 67 counties and the federal government. For more information and to GET A PLAN! please visit www.FloridaDisaster.org.

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