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FEMA

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Disaster News

Tips To Speed Up FEMA Assistance

WINDSOR, Conn.—The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Management and Homeland Security suggest a positive action plan for Connecticut residents with property damage and personal losses from the April 15-27 storms. This helps speed state and federal disaster aid:

- **Register as soon as possible.** Homeowners, renters, and business owners with storm-damaged property should call the FEMA registration line at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** to apply for disaster assistance. Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may call **(TTY) 1-800-462-7585**. The lines are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week. Registration may also be made online at www.fema.gov.
- **Register even if you are insured.** Your insurance coverage may not be adequate and some damages may not show up until later. Anyone whose property suffered any flood damage or loss should register for assistance.
- **Have this information on hand** when you register: Your current phone number and address, the address of the damaged property with clear directions, and your general financial information to help FEMA assist you with the correct assistance programs.
- **Mention all of your flood losses.** You may be eligible for money to replace a variety of damaged essential personal property—wheelchairs, tools of trade, educational materials and major appliances—that may qualify for federal or state assistance.
- **Stay in touch and keep appointments.** Soon after you register, a FEMA inspector will make an appointment to visit your damaged property. Make every effort to be at home. Keep in touch by using the FEMA Helpline **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **(TTY) 1-800-462-7585**.
- **Visit a Disaster Recovery Center if you have questions or need more information.** Call the FEMA helpline to learn the location of these information centers.
- **Return all forms promptly.** After registering, you may receive a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) low-interest loan application package in the mail. **Do not throw it away.** Fill out and return these forms promptly. They are an essential part of the disaster-assistance qualification process, even if you will not use a loan in your recovery.

Residents of Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London and Windham counties are now eligible to apply for FEMA funding and U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest loans to assist in their recovery from the April storms.

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FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror. For more information call the news desk or visit www.fema.gov or www.ct.gov/demhs or www.sba.gov.