



MEMA



FEMA

News Release

May 4, 2011
DR-1972-NR-002
Media Contact: 617-513-2582
State Contact: 866-920-6362

FIVE TORNADO DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS OPEN IN MISSISSIPPI

PEARL, Miss. -- Five state and federal Disaster Recovery Centers are operating in Mississippi to help people whose homes or businesses were affected by recent storms and tornadoes. All are open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. until further notice. More centers are scheduled for opening soon to help survivors who suffered losses resulting from the storms, tornadoes and flooding of April 15 and 27-28.

Counties currently designated for assistance to individuals are: Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clarke, Greene, Hinds, Jasper, Kemper, Lafayette, Monroe, Neshoba and Webster. Residents who suffered storm-related losses in these counties may visit any center for assistance.

Emergency management experts from the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Small Business Administration and other agencies will staff the centers to explain disaster assistance programs and help storm survivors. Before visiting a center, people with storm-related losses should register with FEMA by calling **800-621-FEMA (3362)** or online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov. Help is available in most languages. Those with speech or hearing impairment may call (TTY) **800-462-7585**.

Persons affected by the storms also may apply for federal assistance through a web-enabled mobile device or Smartphone. Visit m.fema.gov and follow the link to “apply online for federal assistance.”

Disaster Recovery Centers currently operating

Hinds County Golden Keys Community Center 3450 Albermarle Rd. Jackson, MS 39213	Clinton Public Works Facilities 527 Spring Ridge Rd. Clinton, MS. 39056	Monroe County Intersection of Hwy 23 & Hwy 25 Smithville, MS 38870
Greene County Leakesville Community Center 1627 Center St. Leakesville, MS 39451	Kemper County Kemper County Sheriff Department Conference Room 330 Stennis Industrial Rd. DeKalb, MS 39328	

--More--

FIVE TORNADO DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS OPEN IN MISSISSIPPI

Page 2

Individual assistance for eligible homeowners and renters can include grants to help pay for rental housing, home repairs and other serious disaster-related expenses not met by insurance or other assistance programs. Representatives are available to explain the full range of application options available including assistance for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses.

Low-interest loans from the SBA are available for eligible applicants to cover residential and business losses not fully compensated by insurance. Among the options are assistance for replacement of personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses. Other help at the centers may be provided by attorneys, crisis counselors and representatives of organizations such as the American Red Cross or local volunteer agencies.

###

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.

###