

NEWS RELEASE: July 22, 2008

Greene County receives FEMA Individual Assistance for June flood damage

The Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management has been notified that Greene County residents now qualify for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Disaster Assistance for flooding and severe storm damage from June to the present.

“This declaration is going to let any Greene County resident or business that has been impacted by the recent flooding and the June 19 tornado to apply for assistance through FEMA,” said Ryan Nicholls, Director of the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management. “We have been repeatedly hit with floods and storms, and these continual disasters are taking their toll on county residents. We hope anyone needing help with damage will utilize the process offered by FEMA.”

Greene County homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private nonprofits should register for assistance by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the speech- or hearing-impaired. This toll-free registration helpline will operate from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. until further notice.

Online registration is available anytime at www.fema.gov.

FEMA disaster recovery experts urge Missourians in the affected areas to register with the agency even if they have insurance. FEMA does not duplicate insurance payments, but applicants who are under-insured may be reconsidered after claims have been settled.

Registration with FEMA is required separately from registration with any other disaster relief organizations.

When registering by phone, you'll be asked to provide:

- Your Social Security number;
- Your name as it appears on your Social Security card;
- The address of the damaged property, not a post office box;
- The name of your insurance company;
- A phone number where you can be reached by FEMA; and
- A mailing address where you can receive correspondence from FEMA.

Also, those who want a check to be deposited electronically to their account will be asked to provide a bank routing number and their account number.

After registering, you may also receive an SBA loan application. No one is required to take an SBA loan, but completing the loan application is crucial to the disaster recovery process.

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 media inquiries, call Ryan Nicholls, Director of the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management, at 869-6040, or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 829-6019 or 379-5713.

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