



FEMA

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FEMA News Desk: 202-368-7324

EA Fact Sheet

DAY 41

KEY MESSAGES

- Federal assistance to help individuals and families recover from the recent flooding in South Texas now tops **\$11.1 million**.
 - The **\$11.1 million**, approved through FEMA's Individuals and Households Program, includes **\$9.6 million** in Housing Assistance to help pay rent for those whose homes were not habitable and for home repairs after the storm. More than **\$1.4 million** was approved for Other Needs Assistance, which helps with disaster expenses that can make it hard for people to get back on their feet, such as clothes for work, childcare and disaster-related funeral expenses.
- SBA has received 811 applications for low-interest disaster loans and has approved **\$10.3 million**.
- The National Flood Insurance Program approved claims worth **\$37.7 million**. The average payment is \$55,662.
- State/federal Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) are open in Cameron, Willacy and Hidalgo Counties. **The DRCs will be closed for Labor Day, Monday, September 2, and will reopen at 8 a.m., Tuesday, September 3.**
 - Normal DRC hours are **8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday**, and from **10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday**. Closed on Sunday. Locations are:

Cameron County

La Feria Safe Room
1001 Pancho Maples Drive
La Feria, TX 78559

Hidalgo County

La Villa Youth Center
302 West 2nd Street
La Villa, TX 78562

Willacy County
Community County Safe Room
10804 Business 77
Raymondville, TX 78580

Registration Information:

- Residents in Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy counties affected by severe storms and flooding, and who sustained damages to their home or property are urged to register for disaster assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as soon as possible.
- To register:
 - Go online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.
 - Call 1-800-621-3362 (FEMA).
 - Disaster assistance applicants who have a speech disability or hearing loss and use TTY should call 1-800-462-7585 directly.
 - For those who use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 1-800-621-3362.
 - The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. (local time) daily.
 - Registering with any other agency does not register a survivor with FEMA.
 - If you already called FEMA to register for assistance for damage caused by the recent storms and flooding, you will not need to reapply. You can call the FEMA Helpline and speak with a representative if you have any questions.
- Disaster survivors must meet the following criteria to be considered for assistance through the Individuals and Households Program:
 - Disaster losses are in a presidentially-declared disaster area.
 - The damage to the home must have been caused by the declared disaster.
 - The homeowner must provide proof of ownership.
 - Both renters and homeowners may also be eligible for Other Needs Assistance (ONA) through FEMA. ONA helps survivors with uninsured or underinsured necessary expenses and serious needs caused by the disaster.
 - A member of the household must be a United States citizen, a non-citizen national, or a qualified alien.
 - Undocumented families with diverse immigration status only need one family member (including minor children) who is a citizen and has a social security number to apply. The minor child must live with the parent/guardian applying on his/her behalf.
 - The damaged home is where the applicant lives the majority of the year.

- The applicant must have maintained flood insurance if assisted by FEMA in a previous disaster.
- The damaged home is inaccessible or not livable due to the disaster.
- The disaster survivor has necessary expenses or serious needs as a result of the disaster that are not covered by insurance or any other source.
- Disaster assistance can include grants to help pay for temporary housing, home repairs and other serious disaster-related expenses not met by insurance or other assistance programs.
- Low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) are available to businesses, private nonprofit organizations, homeowners and renters to cover residential and business losses as a result of the disaster.
- Flood insurance helps survivors recover faster and more fully. Survivors can visit www.floodsmart.gov to find a provider that offers affordable coverage.
- As of **Aug. 26, 2019**:
 - FEMA inspectors completed 4,980 home inspections, or more than 99% of those requested, in the three designated counties.
 - DRCs received 3,410 visits.

Hazard Mitigation

- FEMA mitigation experts are available at all Disaster Recovery Centers.
- Texas residents affected by the recent severe storms are advised to get proper permits when rebuilding their damaged property. Every part of a building — from roofs, walls and siding to plumbing, septic systems and heating/air conditioning systems — may require a permit before rebuilding. Permits protect owners, residents, communities and buildings by making sure repairs and/or construction meet current building codes, standards, floodplain ordinances and construction techniques.
- FEMA mitigation continues its outreach activities at hardware stores in the designated counties and nearby. Locations this week are:

Hidalgo County
 McCoy's
 2901 W. University Drive
 Edinburg, TX 78539

Hours: 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, August 26-30
7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, August 31

Kleburg County
Lowe's #1763
1420 East General Cavazos Blvd.
Kingsville, Texas 78363

Hours: 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, August 27-31

- Locations next week:

Willacy County
Alamo Lumber
1595 South 7th St.
Raymondville, TX 78580

Hours: 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, September 4 -6
8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, September 7

Nueces County
Lowe's #1863
1530 Airline Rd.
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412

Hours: 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, September 4 -7

Help with SBA Loans

- Applicants can apply for a low-interest disaster loan online using SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.
- Survivors and business owners can get more information on SBA disaster assistance by calling SBA's Customer Service Center at **800-659-2955**, by visiting www.sba.gov/disaster, or by emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call **800-877- 8339**.