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LINKS:

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): <http://www.fema.gov>

FEMA's mobile site: <http://m.fema.gov/>

National Hurricane Center: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/index.shtml>

Tips and information from the **American Red Cross, NH Chapter:** <http://www.nh.gov/readynh/documents/RedCross-HurricaneIrene082411.pdf>

State of New Hampshire Emergency Management: <http://www.nh.gov/readynh/>

UPDATE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14:

Residents of Carroll and Grafton counties who are unemployed as a direct result of the recent flooding and devastation caused by Tropical Storm Irene may be eligible for weekly benefit payments under the Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) program.

To apply for DUA, call New Hampshire Employment Security (NHES) at 1-800-266-2252 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Sunday through Friday.

Applicants filing for DUA will be asked about their work history for the past 18 months and may be asked for earnings statements. DUA is available to eligible individuals starting the week ending Sept. 9. DUA benefits may be available up to the week ending March 3, 2012, as long as the individual's unemployment was caused by the disaster and continues. The deadline to apply for DUA is Oct. 10.

You may be eligible to apply for DUA if:

- * You were injured in the disaster and are unable to work, whether you are an employee or self-employed
- * Your workplace was damaged or destroyed
- * Your transportation to work is not available as a result of the disaster
- * You cannot get to your job because you must travel through the affected area
- * You were about to begin working, but could not because of the disaster
- * You derived most of your income from areas affected by the hurricane and your business is down as a direct result of the disaster

*** Receiving DUA does NOT disqualify you from registering for FEMA disaster assistance.**

To register - log on to www.disasterassistance.gov, by Smartphone at m.fema.gov or call FEMA's toll-free number, 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). Those who use TTY, call 1-800-462-7585 directly. For 711-Relay or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 1-800-621-3362. All numbers are available from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

UPDATE AS OF SEPTEMBER 12:

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) announce the opening of a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in Grafton County to provide face-to-face assistance to those who suffered damage and losses from severe storms and flooding from Aug. 26 to Sept. 6.

The locations and schedules of the **Grafton County Disaster Recovery Centers** are as follows:

Campton Baptist Church, 1345 Route 175, Campton, NH 03223

Monday, Sept. 12, noon to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 13, and Wednesday, Sept. 14, 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Woodstock Town Office, 5 Lost River Road, North Woodstock, NH 03262

Thursday, Sept. 15, noon to 8 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 16, 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 17, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Plymouth Town Office, 6 Post Office Square, Plymouth, NH 03264

Monday, Sept. 19, noon to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 20, and Wednesday, Sept. 21, 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Canaan Fire Station, 62 Rte. 118, Canaan, NH 03741

Thursday, Sept. 22, noon to 8 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 23, 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 24, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Lebanon Airport Terminal, 5 Airpark Road, West Lebanon, NH 03766

Monday, Sept. 26, noon to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 27 and Wednesday, Sept. 28: 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Residents are urged to register before visiting a DRC. There are three ways to register - **log on to**

www.disasterassistance.gov

, **by smart phone at m.fema.gov** or call FEMA's toll-free number, **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**

. Those who use a TTY, call 800-462-7585 directly and 711-Relay or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362. All numbers are available from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

At the Disaster Recovery Centers, visitors can:

- Receive information about different types of state and federal disaster assistance.
- Get help completing applications for U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private nonprofit organizations.
- Inquire about the status of their applications for federal assistance.
- Receive referrals to voluntary organizations to help with immediate unmet needs.
- Learn cost-effective measures to reduce the impact of future disaster losses.

For detailed information about the types of **disaster assistance available to individuals and households** , please read the following document from FEMA . [165.50 Kb](#) [FEMA Assistance Fact Sheet 09011.doc](#)

For detailed information about the types of **disaster assistance available to small businesses** , please read the following document from the Small Business Administration .
[104.86 Kb](#)
[SBA Disaster Assistance Fact Sheet 09011.pdf](#)

Update as of August 31:

The Governor and the State of New Hampshire are asking residents to report any damage to their homes by calling 2-1-1 as well as to their local emergency management officials. This is important to help ensure all damage is accounted for as Federal Emergency Management Agency teams conduct assessments over the next few days.

From the Governor's Office:

FEMA teams are expected to begin a preliminary damage assessment of the state tomorrow, which will help determine New Hampshire's eligibility for public, individual and small business assistance in the wake of the storm.

FEMA must conduct a preliminary damage assessment to ensure that federal damage guidelines are met before federal assistance is granted to the state. The state as a whole must meet federal thresholds in order to qualify for assistance. Individual counties, as well, must meet certain damage thresholds in order to qualify for assistance.

FEMA offers two primary types of assistance, public assistance - which helps the state and communities cover emergency operations, debris removal and repair costs; and individual assistance - which provides some emergency assistance to individuals and will cover some - but not usually all - costs of damage to property.

Homeowners should collect and retain estimates from contractors, bills for actual expenditures, photographs - any records that may be used to establish the amount of losses. Reporting losses to 2-1-1 will help the state determine the extent of damage to private property and will assist state officials in applying for federal disaster assistance. It will not qualify anyone for assistance.

There is no guarantee that New Hampshire will qualify for federal assistance for private property damage. However, if assistance is granted, property owners would then file more detailed property damage reports directly with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The State Fire Marshal's Office issued the following tips for damage assessment and debris removal:

Trying to cut a tree that has fallen on your house can create dangerous situations which could cause the tree to fall on you or cause more damage to your home

If a tree falls on your house, call your local fire department to have them check for damage to utilities such as electric power and gas lines.

Remember that trees can become entangled in power lines. Treat every downed wire as if it were energized. Some utility wires are quite strong and will suspend trees and branches aloft. Do not attempt to disentangle the trees or branches. If a wire snaps suddenly, it could send the wire, tree, or branch down on top of you.

Contact a professional tree company to remove the tree. They have special equipment to remove the tree safely from your building.

Do not attempt permanent repairs until a professional has a chance to examine for underlying structural damage

For further information concerning home fire or building safety, contact your local fire department, building official, or the State Fire Marshal's Office at 603-223-4289.