



FEMA

E-News Update

This E-News update includes information on federal and state resources available to help Texas businesses and employees recover from Hurricane Ike. We welcome your comments, questions, good stories and suggested topics. See below for details.

SEA GRANT TEXAS LEADS FISHERIES RECOVERY EFFORT

Texas Sea Grant Extension is hosting a series of public meetings with commercial fishermen affected by Hurricane Ike in the Galveston Bay complex and the Sabine Lake area. The meetings will address relevant recovery information and updates on various fishery-related items.

Sea Grant staff will answer questions about the economic loss assessment surveys that have been mailed and explain the importance of obtaining industry-wide damage information for the long-term recovery process. The staff will be seeking input regarding strategies for forming a fishing community coalition to help unite the efforts needed to obtain appropriate resources.

Anyone interested in the fisheries is invited to attend these meetings which begin at 6 p.m.:
Port Arthur, TX - Tuesday Jan. 27 – Port Arthur Public Library, 4615 9th Ave. @ Highway 73
Anahuac, TX – Thursday. Jan. 29 – White Memorial Park, 295 White Memorial Park Drive.

Texas Sea Grant Extension is a cooperative effort of the Texas Sea Grant College Program at Texas A&M University, the Texas AgriLife Extension Service and commissioners' courts.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE SITUATION UPDATE:

CLOSE OF BUSINESS THURSDAY, JAN. 15, 2009

- Housing and Other Needs Assistance disbursed grants: **\$458,872,470**
- Small Business Administration approved loan amounts: **\$513,810,200**
 - Including **1,140** low-interest business loans - **\$121,169,500**
- Current Deadlines:
 - FEMA registration and SBA loan application: **Friday, Feb. 6, 2009**
 - Transitional Sheltering Assistance in Hotels & Motels (TSA): **March 13, 2009**
 - SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan: **June 15, 2009**

WEB RESOURCES OFFER FEMA PHOTOS, GUIDES

Texas businesses have access to a wide variety of news and background resources from the Federal Emergency Management Agency on a brand new link at www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/2008/ike/ that covers Texas recovery efforts including **success stories** and **best practices for businesses**.

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Other links of interest include:

www.fema.gov/media/multimedia/ - This new site offers brief “webisodes” on Ike recovery efforts and FEMA programs, including the **Employee Disaster Assistance Team** effort at Orange County’s Chemical Row. Many of these vignettes are also offered on www.youtube.com/fema.

www.photolibrary.fema.gov - FEMA’s extensive collection of photos from current and previous disaster declarations.

www.fema.gov/assistance - Describes the steps in the application processes for individual assistance.

www.fema.gov/business/nfip/ - Describes the National Flood Insurance Program.

www.fema.gov/rebuild/smart_strong - Provides helpful information on rebuilding safer and stronger against future disasters.

TWO FREE CONTRACTING WORKSHOPS SET FOR COMING WEEKS

Contractors interested in learning how to do business with the federal government following Hurricane Ike have a chance to do so in two upcoming workshops.

Galveston – Feb. 4

The **Disaster Contracting with Local Vendors** workshop will be held Wednesday, Feb. 4, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, 2920 Ave. M1/2, Galveston, TX 77550.

Presentations will include information on how to:

- Register with Dun & Bradstreet for a contractor DUNS number.
- Register with Central Contractor Registration (CCR).
- Get on the General Services Administration (GSA) schedule.
- Interface with the SBA to obtain small business certifications.
- Successfully navigate Web sites that contain contracting opportunities for recovery efforts for Hurricane Ike.

Galveston – Feb. 5

The **Bids and Proposals Preparation** class will be on Thursday, Feb. 5, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, 2920 Ave. M1/2, Galveston, TX 77550.

Participants will learn how to:

- Effectively respond to Requests for Proposals (RFPs) and Requests for Quotations (RFQs).
- Develop a strong proposal.
- Utilize available local resources.

Both workshops are sponsored by FEMA, City of Galveston Council members Dr. Linda Colbert and Tarris Woods, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

These events are free and open to the public, but registration is required. **To register, call 409-797-5258.** Attendance at either workshop does not guarantee a contract award.

FEMA ADVISORS AT TEXAS HOME IMPROVEMENT CENTERS

Teams of FEMA hazard mitigation specialists will be at Texas stores, answering questions about protecting homes and businesses from future disaster damage, as well as other storm-damage questions.

The FEMA representatives explain flood- and wind-resistant building techniques, and offer advice on topics such as building elevation, safe rooms, wind straps, flood insurance and other measures to make buildings stronger and safer. They also offer publications on similar topics.

Tyler County

Parker Lumber Company
2000 Magnolia St.
Woodville, TX
Jan. 12-24
Monday-Saturday
7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday

Trinity County

Brookshire Brothers
515 S. Robb
Trinity, TX
Jan. 12-16
7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-
Friday

Montgomery County

Lakeside Building Supply
Highway 150 W.
Coldspring, TX
Jan. 12-24
Monday-Saturday
7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday

FEMA teams will be at the outlets listed below **Thursday through Tuesday** (No Wednesdays) until **Feb. 12** from **7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

Harris County

The Home Depot
4915 Garth Road
Baytown, TX

Brazoria County

The Home Depot
100 Amber Jackson Parkway
Lake Jackson, TX

Chambers County

Bradley Feed & Supply
518 Miller St.
Anahuac, TX

Jefferson County

The Home Depot
3910 Easter Freeway
Beaumont, TX

Galveston County

The Home Depot
702 65th St.
Galveston, TX

Orange County

Orange Co Building Materials
365 Old Highway 90 W.
Vidor, TX

FEMA PRIVATE SECTOR OFFICE

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