



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.

CONSTRUCTION UNDER WAY ON GALVESTON TEMPORARY MOBILE HOME COMMUNITY SITES

Construction has begun on Galveston County's first temporary mobile home community site for Texans displaced from their homes by Hurricane Ike.

The site is in High Island on the upper Bolivar Peninsula. The 9.5-acre site will hold 50 manufactured homes from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Also starting construction is a 54-unit community site in the city of Galveston at Schreiber Field. Contractors estimate construction should be completed within three weeks, as long as the weather cooperates.

Meanwhile, more than 75 Texas families have moved out of manufactured homes provided by FEMA. Other families are moving into the newly opened Acadian Annex community park in the southern Orange County town of Bridge City. The 39-unit site is the first community site to open under an initiative by FEMA and its partners to build such parks in Texas.

MOST FEMA MANUFACTURED HOMES IN ORANGE COUNTY

More than 2,000 families have moved into manufactured housing in Orange County as local, state and federal partners work to ease the housing shortage in an area hit hard by Hurricane Ike.

As of Wednesday, 2,015 FEMA-provided temporary housing units have been occupied in Orange, Bridge City and other towns in Orange County. FEMA has now placed 98 percent of the county's eligible applicants in manufactured housing. More than half of the total anticipated need of 3,654 manufactured housing units is in Orange County.

FEMA continues to look for apartment rentals for evacuees in the hard-hit counties of Orange, Jefferson, Chambers, Galveston and Harris. As rental units are repaired, FEMA will try to move families into these locally owned and operated facilities. Landlords with available rental units are encouraged to **call FEMA at 512.820.7838**.

FEMA WORKING TO REGISTER ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY IKE

As the **Feb. 20, 2009, deadline** approaches to register for federal assistance, FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) continue to urge people who have uninsured losses due to Hurricane Ike to contact FEMA.

PUBLISHED BY THE FEMA AUSTIN - PRIVATE SECTOR OFFICE

Contact Phone: 512-465-5858, Fax: 512-465-5867, email: FEMA-TX-PRIVATE-SECTOR@FEMA.GOV

Applicants must live in one of the 34 counties designated for FEMA's Individual Assistance. Homeowners, renters, business owners and nonprofit organizations can register online anytime at www.fema.gov or by calling **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**, (TTY **1-800-462-7585**). The toll-free number is available from **6 a.m. to midnight seven days a week**.

Register before the deadline even if you have insurance – in case your claim is questioned or does not cover all losses. The physical deadline to return SBA applications for homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, nonprofit organizations is also Feb. 20. The deadline for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) is June 15.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE SITUATION UPDATE:

CLOSE OF BUSINESS WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11, 2009

- Housing and Other Needs Assistance disbursed grants: **\$487,713,036**
- Small Business Administration approved loan amounts: **\$559,681,800**
 - Including **1,314** low-interest business loans: **\$151,133,700**
- Current Deadlines:
 - FEMA registration and SBA loan application: **Friday, Feb. 20, 2009**
 - Transitional Sheltering Assistance in Hotels & Motels (TSA): March 13, 2009
 - SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan: June 15, 2009

ANNUAL JOB FAIR SET FOR NEXT WEEK IN GALVESTON

The Fourth Annual **Oceans of Opportunity Job Fair** is scheduled for **Tuesday, Feb. 17** from **9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at the **Galveston Island Convention Center**, 5600 Seawall Blvd., Galveston, TX 77551. Plans are for 200 employers to be present. Last year, about 2,000 applicants attended.

The event is being sponsored by Rep. Ron Paul (R-14th District), the city of Galveston, the Galveston Chamber of Commerce, the Galveston Economic Development Partnership, the University of Texas Medical Branch and Workforce Solutions.

Job seekers needing more information can call or visit any Workforce Solutions Career Office in their community, call **888-469-JOBS (5627)** or visit www.wrksolutions.com. **Employers** who would like to participate can register at www.wrksolutions.com/exhibitor.html. For more information, they can contact Laura Baumgartner at Laura.Baumgartner@wrksolutions.com or call **409-949-9055** ext. 2338. Please note that this extension is different from the phone number on flyers distributed earlier.

SEA GRANT TEXAS FISHERIES DAMAGE SURVEYS DUE FEB. 20

Friday, Feb. 20, is the deadline for those in the Texas seafood industry to comment through the [Texas Sea Grant Extension](#) Hurricane Ike impact survey in the Galveston Bay complex and the Sabine Lake area.

Sea Grant has been conducting public meetings to gather information and pass out the surveys. Anyone who would like more information should contact Rhonda Cummins at (361) 552-9747.

FEMA ADVISORS AT TEXAS HOME IMPROVEMENT CENTERS

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

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.

Brazoria Co	McCoy's Building Supply	1300 N Hwy 288B Mon-Fri - 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (No Wednesdays)	Clute, TX	Through March 12 Sat - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Fort Bend Co	The Home Depot	20360 Hwy 59 Thurs-Tues - 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (No Wednesdays)	Humble, TX	Through Feb. 21
Galveston Co	The Home Depot	3200 Gulf Freeway Thurs-Tues - 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (No Wednesdays)	Dickinson, TX	Through March 12
Harris County	Lowe's	19225 Gulf Freeway Thurs-Tues - 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (No Wednesdays)	Webster, TX	Through March 12
Harris County	McCoy's Building Supply	330 Ward Rd. Mon-Fri - 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (No Wednesdays)	Baytown, TX	Through March 12 Sat - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Jasper Co	Lowe's	900 Gibson St. Thurs-Tues - 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (No Wednesdays)	Jasper, TX	Through Feb. 21
Jefferson Co	Lowe's	8383 Memorial Blvd Thurs-Tues - 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (No Wednesdays)	Port Arthur, TX	Through March 12
Orange County	McCoy's Building Supply	4514 W. Lutzer Dr. Mon-Fri - 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (No Wednesdays)	Orange, TX	Through Feb. 12 Sat - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Polk Co	Lowe's	120 Hwy 59 Loop Thurs-Tues - 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (No Wednesdays)	Livingston, TX	Through Feb. 21

FEMA PRIVATE SECTOR OFFICE

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Contact Phone: 512-465-5858, **Fax:** 512-465-5867, **e-mail:** FEMA-TX-PRIVATE-SECTOR@FEMA.GOV

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.