



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.

EXTRA TIME AVAILABLE TO REGISTER FOR ASSISTANCE

At the request of the State of Texas, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) extended the deadline for homeowners, renters and business owners who suffered damages from Hurricane Ike to register for state and federal disaster assistance. The new deadline is Monday, Jan. 12, 2009.

For individuals, assistance could include grants to help pay for temporary housing needs, essential home repairs and other serious disaster-related expenses not covered by insurance or other sources.

For businesses of any size, public non-profits, homeowners and renters, the SBA offers low-interest disaster loans to repair or replace real or personal property. In addition, small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives and certain private, non-profit organizations of all sizes that suffered substantial economic injury from the disaster may be eligible for the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program.

Texas disaster victims who have registered with FEMA may file an **SBA disaster loan application** online. Electronic Loan Applications are accessible from SBA's secure Web site - <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. For information about SBA programs call **1-800-659-2955** (TTY 1-800-877-8339), or visit the SBA's website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Individuals may also email questions to the SBA at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

For **FEMA registration**, go to www.fema.gov or call **1-800-621-FEMA** (3362) or TTY 1-800-462-7585. The FEMA Registration/Helpline operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week until further notice.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE SITUATION UPDATE:

CLOSE OF BUSINESS MONDAY, DEC. 15, 2008

- Housing and Other Needs Assistance approved grants: **\$409,250,426**
- Small Business Administration approved loan amounts: **\$432,102,000**
 - Including **849** low-interest business loans - **\$80,307,100**
- Current Deadlines:
 - FEMA registration and SBA loan application: Jan. 12, 2009
 - Transitional Sheltering Assistance in Hotels & Motels (TSA): Jan. 15, 2009
 - SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan: June 15, 2009

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HOLIDAY BREAK FOR E-NEWS UPDATE

With the upcoming holidays, many FEMA employees will be returning home to see their families for a short break. While our offices will remain open, we will suspend publication until the week of January 4. Happy holidays to all.

FREE CONTRACTING WORKSHOP SET FOR GALVESTON

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

A **Bids and Proposals Preparation Workshop** will be on Wednesday, **Dec. 17**, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at **Galveston City Hall**, City Council Chambers, 823 Rosenberg Ave., Galveston, TX 77553.

It is sponsored by FEMA, the U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Government Contracting, the Galveston Chamber of Commerce and Galveston City Hall.

Participants will learn how to:

- Effectively respond to bids, Requests for Proposals (RFPs) and Requests for Quotations (RFQs).
- Develop a strong proposal.
- Use available local resources to make stronger presentations.

The event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. **To register**, email Chamber President Gina Spagnola at gspagnola@galvestonchamber.com.

Attendance at this workshop does not guarantee a contract award.

FEMA OFFERS STORM MITIGATION ADVICE AT LOCAL STORES

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.

Brazoria County

McCoy's Building Supply
1300 N. 288-B
Richwood, TX 77531
Dec. 15-20
Monday-Saturday
7 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday,
7 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday

Galveston County

The Home Depot
702 65th St.
Galveston, TX 77551
Dec. 15-21
Tuesday-Sunday
7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Jefferson County

Walmart
4999 Twin City Hwy
Port Arthur, TX 77642
Dec. 15-20
Monday-Saturday
8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Harris County

The Home Depot
8400 Westheimer Road
Houston, TX 77063
Dec. 16-21
Tuesday-Sunday
8 a.m.-6 p.m.

The Home Depot
6800 Hwy 6 N
Houston, TX 77064
Dec. 16-20
Tuesday-Saturday
8 a.m.-6 p.m.

FEMA FOCUSING ON IMPACT TO COASTAL FISHING INDUSTRY

The FEMA Private Sector Office in Beaumont is facilitating a meeting between area processing facilities and state and federal resources to assess problems with the storm damage to fishing boats, fishing waters, processing facilities and oyster and clam beds.

Programs available from FEMA Public Assistance, Mitigation, Individual Assistance and the SBA will be discussed. Although not confirmed at press time, state and federal agencies responsible for open water are being contacted about attending.

QUICK REFERENCE

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| FEMA Registration and Helpline | 800-621-3362 | www.fema.gov |
| FEMA Disaster Recovery Center Locations | | http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/pages/dr1791_drc_list.htm |
| TX Hurricane Ike web page | | http://www.fema.gov/news/event.fema?id=10570 |
| SBA Disaster Information Helpline | 800-659-2955 | www.sba.gov |
| IRS Disaster Assistance Hotline | 866-562-5227 | www.irs.gov |
| FEMA Landlord Registry – to list rentals | 866-766-6086 | |
| FEMA Housing Portal – to find rentals | | https://asd.fema.gov/inter/hportal/home.htm |
| TX Disaster Legal Services Hotline | 800-504-7030 | |
| EPA Orphan Container Hotline | 800-671-6022 | |
| FEMA for Kids | | http://www.fema.gov/kids |

FEMA PRIVATE SECTOR OFFICE

This **E-News Update** is provided by FEMA Private Sector Liaison, which is part of the federal response to Hurricane Ike. If you no longer wish to receive these Private Sector **E-News Updates**, reply with the word “UNSUBSCRIBE” in the subject line. If someone forwarded you this e-mail and you would like to be added to the distribution list, send an e-mail with the word “SUBSCRIBE” in the subject line to FEMA-TX-Private-Sector@fema.gov.

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, SEX, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE, DISABILITY, OR ECONOMIC STATUS. ANYONE WHO BELIEVES HE OR SHE HAS BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST SHOULD CONTACT THE FEMA HELPLINE AT 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) OR 1-800-462-7585 FOR THE SPEECH- OR HEARING-IMPAIRED.