

One Month After Vermont Disaster Declaration Over \$4 Million Approved for Survivors

Release Date: ?? 18, 2024

From July 9-11, 2024, seven counties in Vermont were hit with severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides. One month later, local, state, and federal support is continuing to help Vermonters move forward in their recovery including funds for home repair, emergency lodging, transportation, and other needs.

On August 20, 2024, President Joseph Biden declared a Major Disaster for the state of Vermont making federal funding available to affected individuals in Addison, Caledonia, Chittenden, Essex, Lamoille, Orleans, and Washington counties. Within hours of the declaration, FEMA representatives were interacting with survivors to answer questions and help residents apply for disaster assistance.

Federal funding was also made available to state, tribal, and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations in Addison, Caledonia, Chittenden, Essex, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans, and Washington counties for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities.

Since the President's declaration, families, businesses, and communities continue to rebuild with the help of federal assistance from FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). FEMA home inspectors have completed **1,245** inspections, moving applicants through their program eligibility review process. So far, **\$4,656,478.22** has been approved for Individual Assistance for more than **1,458** households.

Of the total awarded, FEMA has approved **\$2,701,000.26** to help homeowners and renters with temporary housing and home repairs, including **\$787,044** to help more than **413** households repair their privately-owned access roads, driveways, or bridges that were damaged by the disaster. FEMA has also provided **\$1,955,477.96** to help Vermonters replace personal property and with storm-



related necessities like childcare, storage, disaster medical and dental expenses, and other disaster-related items, including over **\$1.7 million** in new flexible funding benefits. Flexible funding, introduced under recent reforms to FEMA's Individual Assistance Program, will help survivors pay for essential items like food and baby formula, as well as provide displacement assistance to help with immediate housing needs.

Across the state, SBA has approved over **\$448,900** in loans to both businesses and homeowners since the start of the declaration.

"We work with our state and local partners to ensure everyone who is eligible for FEMA assistance receives it in the most equitable manner," said Federal Coordinating Officer Will Roy. "I thank Governor Phil Scott and Vermont Emergency Management for being excellent partners throughout this process and the FEMA employees deployed to Vermont who are selflessly carrying out our agency's mission of helping people before, during, and after disasters."

FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance specialists have reached out to over **12,333** survivors to provide information about registering and have visited over **419** community locations including faith-based organizations and **914** private sector businesses.

FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) have seen **755** individuals and have taken **360** registrations. DRCs are a great opportunity for individuals to meet with FEMA specialists for in-person one-on-one support. Five DRCs – in Barre, Hinesburg, Island Pond, Lyndonville, and Waterbury – are currently open Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

You do not need an appointment to visit a DRC.

FEMA specialists and representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration, which can provide low-interest disaster loans to survivors, will be on hand to discuss available assistance.

Those affected by the disaster do not have to visit a DRC in order to apply. Survivors can also register in one of the following ways:

- Online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.fema.gov/disaster-assistance). The FEMA website is accessible and includes language translation options.



- By phone at **1-800-621-3362**. Press 1 for English, 2 for Spanish and 3 for all other languages. If you use video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service. Phone lines operate from **7 a.m. to 10 p.m.** seven days a week.
- Download [FEMA's Mobile App](#). Select Disaster Resources and click on Apply for Assistance Online.

All centers are accessible to people with disabilities and functional needs and are equipped with assistive technology equipment. If you need a reasonable accommodation or sign language interpreter, please call 1-833-285-7448 (press 2 for Spanish).

