



Resources

More information about flood prevention and recovery

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FEMA Certification and Disaster Declaration

In a disaster or local emergency, the primary responsibility for responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against the effects of disaster rests with local government. State and/or federal assistance are provided only when the effects of the emergency are beyond the capability of local resources to mitigate effectively.

The process of requesting state and/or federal assistance after a disaster or emergency is initiated when the local governing body or Governor submits a formal request to the appropriate state or federal office.

The Natural Disaster Assistance Act (NDAA) provides financial aid to local agencies to assist in the permanent restoration of real property (real estate), other than facilities used solely for recreational purposes, when such real property has been damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster.

What is a Disaster?

A major disaster is defined as “any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mud slide, snowstorm, or drought), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the U.S. which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this Act to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.”

An emergency is defined as “any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the U.S.”

How Does FEMA decide how to help?

After a natural disaster or emergency occurs, FEMA considers factors such as:

- amount and type of damages,
- availability of state and local resources,
- the extent and type of insurance in effect,
- recent disaster history;
- past hazard mitigation history, etc.

With this information, FEMA decides how and when to mobilize resources to the disaster/emergency areas. Program and financial assistance is dependant on:

- The type of declaration or proclamation declared,
- Whether the situation constitutes an emergency or a disaster, and
- The assistance required.

More information about this process can be found at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a133_compliance/83516.html; www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a133_compliance/04/dhs.doc and <http://www.fema.gov>.

Agencies who help flood victims

FEMA

On March 1, 2003, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages the National Flood Insurance Program.

Often FEMA works in partnership with other organizations that are part of the nation's emergency management system. These partners include state and local emergency management agencies, 27 federal agencies and the American Red Cross.

FEMA assistance programs:

- **Disaster Assistance:** Provides money or direct assistance to individuals, families and businesses in an area whose property has been damaged or destroyed and whose losses are not covered by insurance.
- **Crisis Counseling:** Provides supplemental funding to States for short-term crisis counseling services to people affected in Presidentially declared disasters.
- **Disaster Legal Services:** Provides free legal assistance to disaster victims.
- **Disaster Unemployment Assistance Program:** Provides unemployment benefits and re-employment services to individuals who have become unemployed because of major disasters.
- **National Flood Insurance Program:** Enables property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses in exchange for State and community floodplain management regulations that reduce future flood damages.
- **Housing Assistance Program:** Provides temporary housing and/or funds to rebuild or replace your damaged home.

FEMA's web site, <http://www.fema.gov/>, provides the following information:

- Ways to protect your property
- Flood insurance advice & flood insurance maps
- Flood advisory maps
- Tips for what to do before, during and after a flood

Contact Information

500 C Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20472
1-800-621-FEMA (3362)
1-800-462-7585 (TTY)

Red Cross Disaster Services

Each year, the American Red Cross responds immediately to more than 70,000 disasters, including house or apartment fires (the majority of disaster responses), hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, hazardous materials spills, transportation accidents, explosions, and other natural and man-made disasters.

Red Cross disaster relief focuses on meeting people's immediate emergency disaster-caused needs. When a disaster threatens or strikes, they provide shelter, food, medical and mental health services to address basic human needs. Listen to your radio or watch local media for the location of the nearest volunteer agency facility.

The Red Cross also feeds emergency workers, handles inquiries from concerned family members outside the disaster area, provides blood and blood products to disaster victims, and helps those affected by disaster to access other available resources.

If you need to find your family, you can check a database maintained by the American Red Cross, or contact them and have them check if you have no access to the database yourself. For information contact the local chapter where you are staying, not the chapter in the disaster area.

For more information: www.redcross.org/services/disaster

Solano County Red Cross Chapter
American Red Cross Bay Area
Address: American Red Cross
American Red Cross Bay Area
85 Second Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
E-mail: arcbainfo@usa.redcross.org
Phone: 415-427-8000
Fax: 415-427-8104
Web site: <http://www.bayarea-redcross.org>

Finding a Place to Stay

For immediate housing needs, the American Red Cross and other volunteer agencies set up shelters for people who cannot return to their homes. Listen to your radio or watch local media for the location of the nearest volunteer agency facility.

For health and space reasons, pets are not permitted in public emergency shelters. Contact the emergency management office or your local animal shelter or humane society to see if there is a shelter set-up to take pets in an emergency.

Agency Contact List

FEMA-Disaster Recovery Center Locations and Information

As of March 18, 2006 both Solano County Disaster recovery centers located in Fairfield and Vacaville are CLOSED. If you need to register with FEMA please do so by contacting FEMA directly:

You may register online at www.fema.gov or by phone by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362).

Police Departments

Benicia	(707) 745 - 3412
Dixon	(707) 678 - 7080
Fairfield	(707) 428 - 7300
Rio Vista	(707) 374 - 2300
Suisun	(707) 421 - 7373
Vacaville	(707) 449 - 5200
Vallejo	(707) 648 - 4321

Solano County Sheriff

(707) 421-7090

Solano County Office of Emergency Services:

Phone: (707) 748-1600
Fax: (707) 421-6368
E-mail: OES@SolanoCounty.com
530 Clay Street,
Fairfield, CA 94533-6306

Solano County Water Agency

Phone: (707) 451 6090
Fax: (707) 451 6099
Flood Hazard Warning Number: (707) 455-1115
web site: www.scwa2.com
P. O. Box 349,
Elmira, CA 95625

Solano Resource Conservation District & Dixon Resource Conservation District

Phone: (707) 678 – 1655 x 3
Fax: (707) 678 – 5001
1170 N. Lincoln Ave., Suite 110
Dixon, CA 95620

Solano County City Departments

Benicia	Dept. of Public Works	(707) 746 – 4240
Dixon	Dept. of Public Works Planning Dept.	(707) 678 – 7000 (707) 678 – 7053
Fairfield	Dept. of Public Works	(707) 428 – 7471
Rio Vista	Dept. of Public Works Community Development	(707) 374 – 6747 (707) 374 – 2205
Suisun	Engineering Dept.	(707) 421 – 7341
Vacaville	Engineering Dept. Dept. of Public Works	(707) 449 – 5140 (707) 469 – 6500
Vallejo	Dept. of Public Works	(707) 648 – 5229

Solano County Resources

Solano County Department of Resource Management (707) 784-6765

California Department of Fish and Game

Region 1: Northern California and North Coast

601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001
Phone: (530) 225-2300

Region 2: Sacramento Valley-Central Sierra Region

1701 Nimbus Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Phone: (916) 358-2900

Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Region 2: San Francisco Bay

Phone: (510) 622-2300
1515 Clay St. Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612

Region 5: Central Valley

Phone: (916) 464-3291
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Phone: (916) 557-5100
1325 J Street
Sacramento CA 95814-2922

World Wide Web Resources

The websites listed below provide more in-depth information about flood preparation, survival and clean-up.

- American Red Cross <http://www.redcross.org>
- Association of State Flood Plain Administrators <http://www.floods.org/>
- California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/>
- California Department of Health Services (DHS) <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/>
- California Department of Water Resources (DWR) <http://www.water.ca.gov>
- California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov>
- Disaster Preparedness <http://www.disastercenter.com/>
- Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) <http://www.flash.org/>
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) <http://www.fema.gov>
- Floodplain Management Association <http://www.floodplain.org/index.htm>
- Flood Safety Website <http://www.floodsaftey.com/>
- National Flood Insurance <http://www.floodsmart.gov/>
- National Severe Storms Laboratory <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov>
- National Weather Service <http://www.crh.noaa.gov>
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>
- Office of Homeland Security <http://www.ready.gov/>
- Office of Management & Budget <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/>
- Solano County Department of Resource Management <http://www.co.solano.ca.us/>
- Solano County Office of Emergency Services <http://www.solanocounty.com/oes>
- Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) <http://www.scwa2.com>
- United States Army Corps of Engineers <http://www.usace.army.mil/>
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) <http://www.epa.gov/>
- United States Geological Survey (USGS) <http://www.usgs.gov/>