



GEMA



FEMA

# Disaster News

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## GEORGIA DISASTER AID APPROACHES \$2 MILLION

**ATLANTA** – A week after a federal disaster declaration due to storms and flooding in southern Georgia, more than \$1.9 million in assistance has been approved to help individuals and households with disaster losses. The Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced the numbers today.

Anyone in 17 counties with losses caused by severe weather in late March and early April may be eligible for aid.

“We expect to see substantially more federal help as additional Georgians register and get into the system,” said GEMA Director Charley English.

Here are details about the assistance provided through May 1:

- FEMA approved \$1,991,020 to assist individuals and families with disaster-related housing and repair costs and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance. Of this amount, \$1,924,864 is disbursed.
- 636 individuals, households and businesses have registered with FEMA.
- The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) issued 367 applications for disaster loans to individuals and businesses. The SBA provides disaster loans to homeowners, renters, non-profit organizations and businesses of all sizes.
- 290 people impacted by the disaster have met with recovery specialists at seven temporary Disaster Recovery Centers set up by FEMA and GEMA to offer in-person help for individuals with disaster-related needs.
- Housing inspectors have completed more than 73 percent (383) of the 525 requests for inspection of disaster-damaged property. Turnaround time from registration to inspection averages less than two days.

Individuals can register with FEMA online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) or by calling toll free **800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 800-462-7585**. The toll-free numbers are staffed seven days a week, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., local time. Help in all languages is available.

Federal Coordinating Officer Terry Quarles said, “FEMA’s number one mission is to help people receive all the assistance to which they are entitled.”

(MORE)

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Counties designated as eligible for FEMA's Individual Assistance Program due to the late March-early April storms and flooding are Berrien, Brantley, Brooks, Coffee, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes, Miller, Mitchell, Pierce, Tift, Ware, Wheeler, and Worth.

In addition to Individual Assistance, 41 counties are eligible for the FEMA Public Assistance program, which provides financial assistance to local, state, and tribal governments and eligible non-profit organizations for disaster-related cleanup and repair of damaged infrastructure and facilities. Those counties are Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Baker, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Calhoun, Clinch, Coffee, Colquitt, Cook, Crisp, Decatur, Dodge, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Grady, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Lanier, Lowndes, Miller, Mitchell, Monroe, Montgomery, Pierce, Pulaski, Tattnall, Telfair, Tift, Thomas, Toombs, Turner, Upson, Ware, Wayne, Wheeler, Wilcox and Worth.

*FEMA leads and supports the nation in a risk-based, comprehensive emergency management system of preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation, to reduce the loss of life and property and protect the nation from all hazards including natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.*

*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.*

*FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.*

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For more information on Georgia's disaster recovery, visit [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or [www.gema.ga.gov](http://www.gema.ga.gov) or [www.ready.ga.gov/](http://www.ready.ga.gov/) or <http://twitter.com/GeorgiaEMA>