

For website

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Subject: I.A. Declaration Process - Next Steps ACTION REQUIRED
TO: ALL REGION 1 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTORS
IMPORTANCE: HIGH

Please see important information below regarding the Individual Assistance Declaration that was issued yesterday by the President. There is action required over the next couple days.

Emergency Management Directors:

As you may know, the Governor's appeal for an Individual Assistance declaration for the five counties of Fairfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London, and Windham was successful. Many thanks to all of you in assisting in the collection of data and conducting of field visits.

It is important to note that everyone, even those who have reported damage through the previously conducted PDA process or through calling in damage reports to 211, must officially register their damages through the FEMA registration process.

The next steps are (1) to inform the public how to register their damage with FEMA and (2) to assist FEMA by providing as much relevant info as possible. With regard to Step 1, the following information is provided to you to publicize in the towns within the 5 counties:

FEMA's tele-registration lines are open seven days a week...6:30 a.m. till 1 a.m. M-F and 6:30 a.m. till midnight Sat and Sun. Connecticut residents from the 5 declared counties who suffered damages should call as soon as possible 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)...or register on line at www.disasterassistance.gov <<http://www.disasterassistance.gov>> - one registration per household. Be careful not to register more than once. Duplicate registrations from the same address will slow down or may even halt the registration process for the applicant. It is also anticipated that a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) will be opening soon in each county with assistance and information for those who visit, but Connecticut residents don't need to wait to register at a DRC. The sooner one registers, the sooner a damage inspector will visit and the sooner disaster assistance will arrive to those eligible applicants. Register as soon as possible at 1-800-621-FEMA or on line.

With regard to Step 2, the FEMA IA Team has provided some questions that they would like answered as soon as possible. Please review these questions and provide whatever information you have as soon as possible to your regional coordinators, preferably before Tuesday, because DEMHS and FEMA are working together now to get the IA process in place early next week. DEMHS has already provided at least preliminary answers to many of these questions, but it would be most helpful if you could provide info on the starred questions.

1. Are there any areas of concentrated damage (cities, counties, streets, etc.)?(DEMHS GIS data will assist with this.)
2. Are there any language concerns?
3. Are there any areas that are currently inaccessible? Locations?

4. Are there any multi-family dwellings affected? Locations? *****
5. Are there areas of concentrated contamination due to flooding?

6. Are there any concentrations of secondary homes affected? Locations?
7. Are there any private roads and bridges damaged? Locations?

8. Are there rural areas where wells and septic systems have been damaged? Locations? *****
9. Are there any tribal reservations / Native American communities affected?
10. Are there any other factors which might impact the performance of inspections?

Any EMD who has pertinent information on the above astrixed questions should send that information to the DEMHS IA Coordinator at the following e-mail address. rita.reiss@ct.gov<mailto:rita.reiss@ct.gov>

Thank you again for your help to support the appeal and your help in getting this assistance out to the residents of these five counties as quickly as possible.

Brenda Bergeron
Alternate State Coordinating Officer
DR 1904
