

Registration deadline in NJ is October 31!

# DISASTER ASSISTANCE

**If you sustained losses or damage from Hurricane Irene you may be eligible for disaster aid.**

You can call to register: **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**

The TTY number is [1-800-462-7585](tel:1-800-462-7585)

For 711 or Video Relay Service, call **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**

For more information or to

Apply: [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov)

Or Apply on your smartphone at: [m.fema.gov](http://m.fema.gov)

**When you register for disaster assistance please have the following available:**

- Social Security Number (including your spouse's)
- Private insurance information, if available
- Address and zip code of the damaged property
- Directions to the damaged home or property
- Daytime telephone number
- A telephone number where we can reach you or leave a message
- An address where you can get mail
- If you want your disaster assistance funds sent directly to your bank, provide the FEMA agent with your bank account type (savings/checking), account number and routing number

*Disaster assistance for eligible recipients is available without regard to race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status.*

# Recovery News

## MYTH vs. FACT ABOUT REGISTERING FOR FEMA AID

**NEPTUNE, N.J.** – Rumors about who should register for federal assistance may cause confusion for New Jersey survivors affected by Hurricane Irene. FEMA provides answers to common misconceptions.

**MYTH:** I've already cleaned up and made the repairs. Isn't it too late to register?

**FACT:** You may be eligible for reimbursement of your clean up and repair expenses.

**MYTH:** I'm a renter. I thought FEMA aid was only for homeowners to repair their homes.

**FACT:** FEMA may provide assistance to help renters who lost personal property or were displaced.

**MYTH:** I thought FEMA only gave loans. I don't want a loan.

**FACT:** FEMA may provide grants, which cover expenses for temporary housing, home repairs, replacement of damaged personal property and other disaster-related needs such as medical, dental or transportation costs not covered by insurance or other programs. They don't have to be repaid.

*The U.S. Small Business Administration provides low-interest loans to renters, homeowners and businesses of all sizes. Some applicants may receive an SBA loan application after registering with FEMA. No one is obligated to take out a loan, but if they don't complete the application they may not be considered for other federal grant programs.*

**MYTH:** FEMA assistance will affect my Social Security benefits, taxes, food stamps or Medicaid.

**FACT:** FEMA assistance does *not* affect benefits from other federal programs and is not considered taxable income.

**MYTH:** My insurance agent told me I wouldn't be able to get help from FEMA because I have

flood insurance.

**FACT:** Everyone with flood insurance should register. FEMA may be able to help with uninsured costs.

**MYTH:** I heard registration is too much red tape and paperwork.

**FACT:** There is no paperwork to register with FEMA. You can do it by calling [800-621-3362](tel:800-621-3362)

(FEMA). Those with access or functional needs can call [800-462-7585](tel:800-462-7585), or [800-621-3362](tel:800-621-3362) if using 711 or Video Relay Service. Registration may also be done online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) or [m.fema.gov](http://m.fema.gov). The website helps reduce the number of forms to be filled out and shortens the time it takes to register.

**MYTH:** I received disaster assistance last year. I thought I couldn't get it again this year.  
**FACT:** If you had damage from another federally declared disaster you may register for new assistance.

**MYTH:** I thought my income was too high for me to qualify.  
**FACT:** Income is not a consideration for FEMA assistance. FEMA grants may cover uninsured losses.

**MYTH:** Other people need the help more than I do.  
**FACT:** FEMA has enough funding to assist all eligible survivors with immediate needs. You will not be taking from others if you register for aid yourself.

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*FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.*

Follow FEMA online at <http://blog.fema.gov>, [www.twitter.com/fema](http://www.twitter.com/fema), [www.facebook.com/fema](http://www.facebook.com/fema), and [www.youtube.com/fema](http://www.youtube.com/fema). Also, follow Administrator Craig Fugate's activities at [www.twitter.com/craigatfema](http://www.twitter.com/craigatfema).

Anyone wishing to visit a FEMA office to discuss damage claims in person may go to any of the following Sites:

Fairfield Community Center 376 Hollywood Ave Fairfield NJ

Parsippany PAL Building 33 Baldwin RD Parsippany

Paterson Museum 2 Market St Paterson NJ 8AM to 4:30 PM.

1Bergen County Plaza 4th Floor Hackensack, NJ