



Recovery News

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BAY STATE DISASTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JULY 12

ANDOVER, Ma. – Disaster officials overseeing recovery operations caused by record-setting spring floods in Eastern and Central Massachusetts announced that the registration deadline for homeowners, renters and business owners to apply for disaster assistance has been extended until close-of-business, Monday, July 12, 2010.

This is the second deadline extension agreed upon by Commonwealth and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials. The first extension took effect over the Memorial Day weekend and since then nearly 1,450 applications have been recorded by FEMA.

Officials point out that a key factor in the two-week deadline extension was the continuing high rate of eligible applicants, with more than 78 percent of all individuals and households registering for aid approved for some form of disaster assistance.

To date, 36,355 Bay State residents in disaster designated counties have applied for assistance by registering online 24/7 at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling **800-621-FEMA (3362)** or 800-462-7585 (TTY) for people with speech or hearing disabilities. The toll-free telephone numbers are open daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Multilingual assistance is available.

Total individual and household disaster assistance in the Bay State now stands at more than \$87.3 million, including \$55.3 million in grants to pay for temporary housing, emergency repairs or rebuilding, rental costs or other serious unmet needs. In addition, more than \$32 million in low-interest disaster loans have been approved by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for uninsured damages to homes, personal property, and businesses.

The deadline extension affects residents or people doing business in Bristol, Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk or Worcester counties who are eligible for state/federal disaster assistance to cope with uninsured disaster-related damages occurring from March 12 through April 26.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders and 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.

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