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FEMA News Desk: (617) 551-0631

FEMA email address: FEMA-R1-NewsDesk@fema.dhs.gov

News Release

FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers Open in Rumford and Skowhegan

PORTLAND, Maine – Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) are now open in Rumford and Skowhegan. The joint DRCs are a temporary facility established in partnership between Maine and FEMA that will help survivors from the severe storms and flooding from Dec. 17-21, 2023, apply for FEMA assistance, upload documents needed for their application and answer questions in person.

Centers are accessible to people with disabilities and access and functional needs. The facilities are equipped with assistive technology equipment that allows disaster survivors to interact with staff. If you need a reasonable accommodation or a sign language interpreter to communicate with FEMA, please call **1-833-285-7448**, press 2 for Spanish.

The center in **Rumford** is located at:

The center in **Skowhegan** is located at:

Rumford Municipal BuildingSomerset County Emergency Operations Center145 Congress St.4 County Dr.Rumford, ME 04276Skowhegan, ME 04976

Open 7 days a week 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Open 7 days a week 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) are on hand at the DRC to provide program information and explain how to apply for SBA's low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, businesses, private nonprofits, and renters, and provide printed information about repairs and rebuilding to make homes more disaster resistant.

Learn more at fema.gov February 2024 1

Disaster survivors are encouraged to submit their SBA loan application as soon as possible. If your application is approved you are not obligated to accept the loan. However, failure to return the application may disqualify you from other types of financial assistance from FEMA.

A FEMA Hazard Mitigation Community Education Outreach Specialist will be on site to assist survivors in preparing for future incidents.

To find a DRC nearest you, click on the FEMA DRC link: Fema.gov/drc.

You may also register for assistance with FEMA through your smart phone, home computer or by phone. The fastest ways to apply for assistance are:

- Online at DisasterAssistance.gov
- By phone at 1-800-621-3362. Press 1 for English, 2 for Spanish and 3 for all other languages. If you use video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service. Phone lines operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week.
- Download FEMA's Mobile App. Select Disaster Resources and click on Apply for Assistance Online.

To learn more about the disaster response in Maine, please visit https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4754.

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FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

FEMA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, limited English proficiency and/or economic status.

FEMA provides free assistance and services to the public to ensure effective communication with FEMA personnel in order to understand FEMA programs.

If you need assistance to access a FEMA programs or services, call FEMA at 1-833-285-7448 [mark 1 for English, 2 for Spanish, 3 for the interpreters line], or send an email to: FEMA-CivilRightsOffice@fema.dhs.gov.