

Nov. 24, 2008

DR-1786-92-LA NR104

**FEMA News Desk:** 

New Orleans: 504-762-2477 Baton Rouge: 225-376-5000

**SBA** Mr. Stacey Brown 916-671-0756

# Recovery News

#### DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS CLOSE THANKSGIVING DAY

**BATON ROUGE, La.** –In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, all Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) across Louisiana will close on Thursday, Nov. 27 and reopen Friday, Nov. 28. The list below contains the locations of all of the DRCs open for the week of Nov. 24, 2008.

## **Disaster Recovery Center location and hours of operation:**

#### **Assumption Parish**

Napoleonville Community Ctr. 4770 Hwy. Napoleonville, LA 70390

# **Cameron Parish**

Grand Lake Recreation District #5 108 Recreation Ln. Grand Lake, LA 70607

#### Lafourche Parish

Old Wal-Mart 4876 Hwy. 1 Mathews, LA 70375

## **Terrebonne Parish**

Town Hall Building 805 Barrow St. Houma, LA 70360

## Calcasieu Parish

Trinity Baptist Church Fellowship Hall 1701 Ryan St. Lake Charles, LA 70601

# Concordia Parish

Vidalia Conference Convention Ctr. 112 Front St. Vidalia, LA 71373

#### **Orleans Parish**

Main Library 219 Loyola Ave. New Orleans, LA 70112

## **Vermilion Parish**

American Legion Hall 605 N. Gin Erath, LA 70533

#### **Cameron Parish**

Hackberry Recreation District 1250 Recreation Cl. Hackberry, LA 70645

# Iberia Parish

Iberia Parish Fire Protection District #1 2309 Avery Island Rd. New Iberia, LA 70560

#### **Rapides Parish**

Bolton Avenue Community Center 315 Bolton Ave. Alexandria, LA 71301

## **Winn Parish**

First Baptist Church 111 East Court St. Winnfield, LA 71483

#### Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Disaster Recovery Center staff can answer questions about registration for disaster assistance and hazard mitigation, help with disaster loan applications and provide information and contacts for other programs.

Homeowners, renters and business owners affected by hurricanes Gustav and Ike are encouraged to register for assistance by calling the toll-free registration line at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** (**TTY 1-800-462-7585**) which is open 24 hours a day seven days a week. Applicants also may register on-line at www.fema.gov.

# DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS CLOSE THANKSGIVING DAY - Page 2

## Residents are encouraged to register prior to visiting a Disaster Recovery Center.

Officials remind affected residents who have already filled out damage report forms with the state, parish emergency managers or voluntary agencies that they must register with FEMA at the above numbers or Web site to be considered for federal assistance.

All residents also are encouraged to get involved with the recovery process by helping spread the word about available assistance and the registration numbers.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) representatives at the Disaster Recovery Centers will meet individually with each applicant to provide assistance in completing his or her disaster loan application and to accept completed disaster loan applications. **Returning the applications is an essential part of the disaster recovery process even for individuals who do not want a loan.** 

The SBA offers low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private nonprofit organizations for losses not fully covered by insurance. The SBA may loan up to \$200,000 to repair or replace homes and up to \$40,000 to repair or replace personal property. Up to \$2 million is available for uncompensated business disaster losses.

Residents and business owners can receive information about SBA disaster loans and help with the application process by calling the SBA at 1-800-659-2955 or visiting the SBA Web site at <a href="https://www.sba.gov">www.sba.gov</a>.

FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

###

Individuals do not need to apply for an SBA loan before they can receive FEMA's temporary housing assistance, which includes rental assistance, home repair and replacement funds, as well as grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses. However, an applicant must complete an SBA loan application to be eligible for FEMA assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.

SBA is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private non-profit organizations fund repairs or rebuilding efforts, and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover uninsured and uncompensated losses and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. For information about SBA programs, applicants may call 800-659-2955 (TTY 800-877-8339).