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News Release

FEMA Individual Assistance Application Deadline has Passed, but Help is Still Available

LACEY, Wash – The March 7 deadline to apply for FEMA disaster assistance has passed, but help is still available for survivors of the declared disaster of Nov. 5 – Dec. 2 as FEMA continues working with the Emergency Management Division of the Washington Military Department.

Stay in touch.

You should notify the agency of any additional damage discovered since your home inspection. And be sure to update any changes in your mailing or email address or phone number and the current status of your insurance settlements. You can reach FEMA online at <u>diasterassistance.gov</u>, by calling 800-621-3362 or by using the <u>FEMA mobile app</u>.

The toll-free telephone lines are currently operating 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily local time. If you use a relay service, captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service. Multilingual operators are available.

Be sure to complete and return any U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster loan application you may have received. You are not obligated to accept a loan if approved. If SBA cannot approve your application, in most cases SBA will refer you to FEMA's Other Needs Assistance program for possible additional assistance.

Homeowners, renters and businesses who have applied for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration can follow up with questions at SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing), or email disastercustomerservice@SBA.gov.

Homeowners and renters who applied for FEMA disaster assistance have the right to appeal FEMA's eligibility decisions. Survivors who don't agree with FEMA's eligibility decision may file an appeal in writing within 60 days of receiving their letter, even though the application deadline has passed. To

learn more about the appeals process, including what to include and how to file an appeal, visit https://go.usa.gov/xz8z3

For more information about Washington flood and mudslide recovery, visit <u>fema.gov/disaster/4635</u>. Follow the FEMA Region 10 Twitter account at <u>twitter.com/femaregion10</u>.

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

The Washington State Military Department's Emergency Management Division leads and coordinates mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery in Washington State to minimize the impact of disasters and emergencies on the people, property, environment and economy.