



Private Sector Advisory

DR 4420 NE/Severe winter storm, straight-line winds and flooding

PS 001 April 12, 2019

- Major Disaster Declaration issued March 21, 2019
- Incident Period: March 9 – April 1
- The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are coordinating the recovery operation.
- Disaster website: fema.gov/disaster/4420
- Current federal staffing: 564, including 478 FEMA employees

27 Counties and One Tribe Eligible for FEMA Individual Assistance

Residents and business owners in Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Buffalo, Burt, Butler, Cass, Colfax, Cuming, Custer, Dodge, Douglas, Hall, Howard, Knox, Madison, Nance, Nemaha, Pierce, Platte, Richardson, Saline, Sarpy, Saunders, Stanton, Thurston and Washington counties and the Santee Sioux Nation are eligible for Individual Assistance as they recover from the severe storms, straight-line winds and flooding March 9 – April 1.

FEMA Hiring Nebraskans to Work on Disaster Recovery

FEMA plans to hire Nebraskans to help with recovery efforts. Anyone interested in temporary job opportunities should go to USAJOBS.gov and create a free account. The website is updated as new postings occur. In the search box, type “FEMA Local Hire” and put “Nebraska” in the location box.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance Available

Employees or self-employed survivors in 27 counties and the Santee Sioux Nation that were designated for federal Individual Assistance may be eligible for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) if they lost their jobs temporarily or permanently as a direct result of the flooding March 9 - April 1. Information about DUA can be found at dol.nebraska.gov/UIBenefits/Programs/DUA.

Understanding Your FEMA Letter

If you applied for assistance from FEMA, you will receive a letter in the mail or via email that explains the status of your application and how to respond. It is important to read the letter carefully. Your letter will include the amount of any assistance FEMA may provide and information on the appropriate use of disaster assistance funds.

You may need to submit additional information for FEMA to continue to process your application.

If you have questions about the letter, you may go online to [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov); call the disaster assistance helpline at **800-621-3362** or **800-462-7585 (TTY)**; or visit a disaster recovery center. To find center locations and hours, go online to [FEMA.gov/DRC](https://www.fema.gov/DRC) or download the [FEMA mobile app](#).

If you disagree with FEMA's decision, or the amount of assistance, you may submit an appeal letter and any documents needed to support your claim, such as a contractor's estimate for home repairs. Appeal letters and supporting documents may be submitted to FEMA by fax or mail, in person at a Disaster Recovery Center, or online if you have a FEMA online account. To set up a FEMA online account, visit [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov), click on "Check Status" and follow the directions.

You must file your appeal in writing to FEMA. In a **signed and dated letter**, you must explain the reason(s) for your appeal. Your appeal letter should also include: your full name; disaster number; address of the pre-disaster primary residence; your current phone number and address; and your FEMA registration number on all documents.

By mail: FEMA National Processing Service Center, P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055

By fax: 800-827-8112, Attention: FEMA

Disaster Recovery Centers Assist Survivors

Disaster Recovery Centers are operating, or are scheduled to begin operation, in areas affected by the winter storm and flooding. More centers continue to be announced. Recovery specialists from FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will provide information on available services, explain assistance programs and help survivors complete or check the status of their applications.

Disaster Recovery Center locations and hours are:

- **Buffalo County:** Gibbon Baptist Church, 705 Court St., Gibbon, NE 68840. Open April 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Butler County:** Bellwood Volunteer Fire Department, 752 41st Road, Bellwood, NE 68624. Open April 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed April 26 for Arbor Day.
- **Cass County:** Plattsmouth Community/Senior Center (Gymnasium), 308 S. 18th St., Plattsmouth, NE 68048. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.
- **Colfax County:** Colfax County Court (Community Room), 411 E. 11th St., Schuyler, NE 68661. Open April 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Custer County:** United Methodist Church, 1000 S. 3rd Ave., Broken Bow, NE 68822. Open April 22, 23, 25, 26, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Open April 24, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Dodge County:** Fremont Learning Center, 130 E. 9th St., Fremont, NE 68025. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.
- **Douglas County:** Valley Veterans Club, 111 E. Front St., Valley, NE 68064. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.
- **Nemaha County:** Peru State College (Campus Services Building), 600 Hoyt St., Peru, NE 68421. Open April 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- **Richardson County:** City Auditorium, 312 W. 17th St., Falls City, NE 68355. Open April 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed April 21 for Easter.
- **Sarpy County:** Twin Creek, 3802 Raynor Parkway, Suite 201, Bellevue, NE 68123. Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.
- **Thurston County:** Pender Community Center, 614 Main St., Pender, NE 68047. Open April 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Washington County:** Arlington City Auditorium, 410 W. Elm St., Arlington, NE 68002. Open April 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Survivors can visit any open DRC for help. To find the nearest center, go online to [FEMA.gov/DRC](https://www.fema.gov/DRC) or call the Disaster Assistance Helpline at **800-621-3362** or **800-462-7585** (TTY).

Debris Removal a Priority for Communities after Nebraska Flooding

As local communities coordinate debris removal, NEMA, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and FEMA advise residents not to wait to clean up. Document damage with photos or videos. Separate debris into categories and place at the curb. Debris should not block the roadway. For more information, go online to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality at deq.state.ne.us/.

How to Register with FEMA:

- Online, visit www.DisasterAssistance.gov.
- On a smart phone, download the **FEMA app** and click on “disaster resources,” then “apply for assistance online.”
- By phone, call FEMA’s toll-free registration line at **800-621-3362** or **800-462-7585** (TTY). Telephone registration is available from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CDT seven days a week.
- Visit a **Disaster Recovery Center** and speak to a FEMA specialist one-on-one. To find the nearest DRC, go online to [FEMA.gov/DRC](https://www.fema.gov/DRC).
- Applicants for disaster assistance should have the following information on hand:
 - Social Security number
 - Address of the damaged primary residence
 - Description of the damage
 - Information about insurance coverage
 - A current contact telephone number
 - An address where they can receive mail
 - Bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of funds

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

SBA has approved \$3,777,300 in low-interest disaster loans for residents and businesses as of April 11 and is continuing to process and approve loan applications for businesses and residents as quickly as possible. Businesses and residents can visit [SBA.gov/disaster](https://www.sba.gov/disaster), call SBA’s Customer Service Center at **800-659-2955** or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. TTY users may call **800-877-8339**.

SBA is operating a Business Recovery Center in Sarpy County at **Bellevue University, John Muller Administrative Services Building, 812 Bruin Blvd., Bellevue, NE 68005**. Open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. to assist businesses with their unique application and disaster recovery needs. No appointment necessary.

FEMA Teams Going Door to Door

FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance Teams are working in impacted neighborhoods to help survivors register for assistance and to identify immediate and emerging needs. Teams are operating in: Boone, Buffalo, Butler, Cass, Custer, Dodge, Douglas, Knox, Nemaha, Richardson, Sarpy, Saunders and Thurston counties and the Santee Sioux Nation. They have visited more than 9,526 homes.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

To date, NFIP has received 997 flood insurance claims in Nebraska and issued \$3,997,010 in advance payments to policyholders. Total paid on all claims: \$6,474,738.

Assistance for Landowners, Farmers, Ranchers and Producers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture offers many programs that provide assistance to landowners, farmers, ranchers and producers following disasters. For information, contact your local [USDA Farm Services Agency](#).

Tax Relief for Nebraska Survivors

Individuals who reside or have a business in 27 counties designated for FEMA Individual Assistance may qualify for [federal tax relief](#). This may include additional time to file yearly individual tax returns or quarterly payments. Eligible taxpayers will also have until July 31, 2019, to make 2018 IRA contributions.

HUD Assistance for Nebraska Survivors

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is providing support to homeowners and low-income renters forced from their homes due to the March winter storm and flooding in Nebraska. For information, visit the HUD website at [hud.gov](#).

FEMA Public Assistance Program

Public Assistance (PA) is FEMA's largest grant program, providing [funds to assist communities](#) responding to and recovering from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President. The program provides emergency assistance to save lives and protect property and assists with permanently restoring community infrastructure affected by a federally declared incident. NEMA is conducting briefings for Public Assistance grant candidates.

Currently, 65 counties are designated for Public Assistance: **Adams, Antelope, Blaine, Boone, Box Butte, Boyd, Brown, Buffalo, Burt, Butler, Cass, Cedar, Cherry, Colfax, Cuming, Custer, Dakota, Dixon, Dodge, Douglas, Fillmore, Frontier, Furnas, Gage, Garfield, Gosper, Greeley, Hall, Harlan, Holt, Howard, Jefferson, Johnson, Keya Paha, Knox, Lancaster, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, Madison, Merrick, Morrill, Nance, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Pawnee, Pierce, Platte, Richardson, Rock, Saline, Sarpy, Saunders, Scotts Bluff, Seward, Sherman, Stanton, Thayer, Thurston, Valley, Washington, Wayne, Wheeler and York.**

Five tribal nations are [designated for Public Assistance](#): **Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Sac and Fox, Santee Sioux Nation and Winnebago Tribe.**

Information Links:

- Nebraska Emergency Management Agency: nema.nebraska.gov/
- Nebraska Preparedness Partnership: neprep.org/
- Nebraska Impact (Volunteering): www.nebraskaimpact.com/flood
- Twitter: twitter.com/nematweets
- Facebook: facebook.com/nema.page
- YouTube: youtube.com/user/TheNEMAtube
- Flickr: flickr.com/photos/nemapics/
- FEMA: FEMA.gov
- Facebook: facebook.com/FEMA
- Twitter: twitter.com/femaregion7
- National Flood Insurance Program: Floodsmart.gov
- FEMA blog: fema.gov/blog
- SBA Office of Disaster Assistance: sba.gov/disaster

#####