



CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY, MAYOR

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Contact: Stan H. Eason
Dir. of Communications
(201)547-5808/ (201)376-2788

Deadline For Hurricane Irene FEMA Aid Extended

**Mayor Healy Urges Homeowners/Residents
To apply for federal grants and low interest
loans to cover damage caused by Hurricane Irene**

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy and Office of Emergency Management officials urged residents and property owners impacted by Hurricane Irene to take advantage of federal loans and grants because the deadline to qualify for that aid is fast approaching.

Those who suffered property damage or loss during the affects of Hurricane Irene have until November 30, 2001 to register with FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, in order to qualify for grants and or federal low interest loans to assist with the recovery of their property and businesses, Healy said.

Registering with FEMA is the most important step in receiving aid for the recovery process. And, there are three ways to register – visit www.DisasterAssistance.gov, or m.fema.gov or call FEMA toll-free, **800-621-3362 (FEMA)**. Those with access or functional needs and who use a TTY may call 800-462-7585 or use 711 or Video Relay Service to call 800-621-3362. Telephone lines are open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET.

“There is help and financial assistance out there, but it’s not going to find you if you don’t register with the agency in control of the programs, FEMA,” said Mayor Healy. “And just as important, if you have applied and have been turned down, there is an appeal process that can lead to you being eligible for federal assistance for your losses. Again, get all your paper work in before the deadline.”

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Local officials in contact with FEMA have been told that claims for assistance or compensation for losses need to be substantiated with support data such as photos and receipts for items already purchased. Submit your proof **to FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program** or apply for low-interest loan to the **U.S. Small Business Administration** (SBA). Also, if you are a homeowner or renter and SBA determines you cannot afford a loan, you may be referred for other possible assistance via grants.

Additionally, a third mechanism to receive assistance from FEMA is through the ONA, or **Other Needs Assistance** program. People affected by the hurricane can get ONA aid for things such as smoke detectors, dehumidifiers, chainsaws, and carbon monoxide detectors by **showing receipts to the items you have purchased between August 27 and September 5th**. If receipts have been lost, very often vendors and stores can provide copies of your original receipts, officials said.

To obtain additional assistance call, the SBA Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or send an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Those affected by the disaster may also apply for disaster loans electronically from SBA's website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela.///>