



FEMA

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News Release

STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS TO CONDUCT NEW STORM DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS IN NEW JERSEY

SOMERSET, NJ – Teams of local, state, and federal emergency management officials will look at flood and storm damage in five additional New Jersey counties to determine if they could be eligible for federal disaster assistance.

On March 26, Governor Christie requested 12 New Jersey counties be included in a federal disaster declaration. That declaration was made by President Obama on April 2.

The work starting on Monday will determine if additional counties can be included in the declaration, making them eligible for federal assistance for the severe storms and flooding of March 12 – April 15.

Led by local officials, teams of representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) will conduct damage assessments in Ocean, Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester and Hunterdon counties.

The teams collect data to evaluate the new state request for both Public Assistance and Individual Assistance.

Public Assistance is being sought in Cumberland, Gloucester, Hunterdon, and Ocean counties. Individual Assistance is being sought in Burlington, Camden, and Cumberland and Ocean counties.

“Sometimes new information on disaster damages comes to light and needs to be evaluated,” says Federal Coordinating Officer William L. Vogel. “We commend our state partners for informing us about damage in these counties and will work closely with them to determine if they warrant federal assistance.”

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Individual Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster.

FEMA's Public Assistance Program funds 75 percent of the repair, replacement or clean up of taxpayer-owned infrastructure, including damaged roads and bridges, public buildings, utilities, and certain non-profit organizations that provide a needed public service.

While private insurance and local resources are the primary means of disaster recovery, federal assistance is made available when it is determined that individual and private recovery efforts will exceed the capabilities of state and local governments and local voluntary agency resources.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders and to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

