Disaster Recovery Center Opens in Jefferson Chalmers

Release Date: July 29, 2021

CHICAGO – A Disaster Recovery Center will open in Jefferson Chalmers on Friday, July 30, to help renters, homeowners and business owners affected by the June 25 – 26 severe storms and flooding.

The center will be in the following location:

**Golightly Career and Technical Center**, 900 Dickerson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48215

Hours will be 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. ET, Monday through Sunday.

**Other FEMA recovery and document drop-off centers are already open.** Individuals can find their nearest center by visiting FEMA’s locator page at [https://egateway.fema.gov/ESF6/DRCLocator](https://egateway.fema.gov/ESF6/DRCLocator).

At recovery centers, representatives from FEMA, U.S. Small Business Administration, Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, and other state agencies are available to explain disaster assistance programs, answer questions about written correspondence and provide literature about repairs and rebuilding to make homes more disaster resistant.

**Individuals do not have to visit a recovery center to register or receive federal assistance.** These centers provide a location for applicants to submit documentation or discuss their case in-person with a FEMA or SBA representative. Before visiting a recovery center, survivors should register for federal assistance one of the following ways:

- Online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://disasterassistance.gov);
- Using the [FEMA App](https://fema.gov); or
- Calling 800-621-3362 (including 711 or Video Relay). TTY users can call 800-462-7585. The toll-free numbers are open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. ET, seven days a week. Multilingual operators are available.

Anyone requiring a reasonable accommodation (ASL interpreting, Braille, Large print, 80/03/2021
etc.) may call 800-621-3362 to request assistance in advance or ask the recovery staff at the center for assistance.

Applicants and staff in the recovery center will be required to comply with federal guidelines for mask usage when interacting with federal employees. Any individual inside a recovery center must wear a face mask which covers the individual's nose and mouth, as per CDC guidance.

For more information about Michigan's recovery, visit www.fema.gov/disaster/4607. FEMA assistance is currently available to residents in Washtenaw and Wayne counties. The deadline for individuals to apply for disaster assistance is Sept. 13, 2021.

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Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency, or economic status. Reasonable accommodations, including translation and American Sign Language interpreters via Video Relay Service will be available to ensure effective communication with applicants with limited English proficiency, disabilities, and access and functional needs. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362 (including 711 or Video Relay). If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability and use a TTY, call 800-462-7585.

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

www.fema.gov/disaster/4607  https://twitter.com/femaregion5
Understanding Your FEMA Letter & Appeal Options

DR-4607-MI
July 2021

Survivors who registered with FEMA for disaster assistance following the June severe storms and flooding will receive a letter explaining FEMA’s eligibility decision and the reason for that decision.

FEMA Decision Letters: What You Should Know

For those who are eligible, your FEMA letter states the dollar amount of the grant and how the funds should be used.

If you are ineligible for FEMA assistance, read your FEMA decision letter carefully because it specifies why you are ineligible and recommends actions that may change the decision. You may need to provide additional information or documents. If a mistake has been made, you should let FEMA know right away by calling the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 (TTY 800-462-7585) or visiting a Disaster Recovery or Drop-off Center.

Common reasons for ineligibility may include:

1. **Insurance.**
   - Federal assistance cannot duplicate insurance payments. However, if you reported having insurance, but it didn’t cover the damage to your home or pay for all essential repairs, you can submit your insurance settlement records to FEMA for review.

2. **No proof of occupancy.**
   - You were unable to demonstrate you occupied the home at the time of the disaster. When FEMA is unable to verify this information, you may provide FEMA with documents such as utility bills, a bank or credit card statement, phone bill, pay stubs, a driver’s license, state-issued ID card, or voter registration card.

3. **Identity verification**
   - If FEMA is unable to verify your identity during the application process, you will be required to submit supporting documents, such as a Social Security card (along with a federal or state-issued ID), employer’s payroll document containing full or last four digits of your SSN, Military identification, Marriage license to confirm proof of maiden name, or U.S. passport.

4. **Verification of home ownership**
   - If FEMA is unable to verify homeownership through automated public and government records, you will be required to submit supporting documents, such as a deed, title or lease, mortgage payment booklet, property tax receipt, property structure insurance, property tax bill, contract for deed, death certificate and will, affidavit of heirship (if applicable), or major maintenance/significant repair receipts.

5. **Insufficient damage.**
   - An inspector determined the damage caused by the current disaster has not made your home unsafe to live in. Your home is still safe, sanitary and functional. If you disagree with the home inspector’s decision, you can appeal. Get third-party documentation in writing (bid for repairs, condemnation notice, etc.) that states your home is uninhabitable.
Appealing a FEMA Decision

Everyone has the right to appeal a FEMA decision. An appeal must be filed in the form of a signed letter within 60 days of the date on the decision letter. In the appeal, explain why you disagree with the decision. Include any requested information and supporting documentation. Be sure to include the following:

- Applicant’s full name, date of birth and current address
- Applicant’s signature and the date
- Applicant’s registration number (on every page)
- FEMA disaster declaration number – DR-4607 (on every page)

You must include a copy of your state-issued ID, have the letter notarized or include the statement “I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.” If the person writing the appeal letter is not the applicant or a member of the applicant’s household, a statement must be included granting the writer authorization to act on their behalf.

Appeal letters and supporting documentation can be uploaded quickly to your account on DisasterAssistance.gov, faxed to 800-827-8112 with the cover sheet provided with your FEMA decision letter, or submitted at a Disaster Recovery Center or Document Drop-off Center where staff are also available to assist you with ensuring all necessary documents are included. Appeals can also be mailed to:

FEMA National Processing Service Center
P.O. Box 10055
Hyattsville, MD 20782-8055

Individuals may always contact the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585) if they have any questions about their disaster assistance options.

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HOW TO WRITE AN APPEAL

The appeal must be postmarked within 60 days of the date on the award or denial letter from FEMA.

Your FEMA Registration #
FEMA Disaster Code

Name
Current Mailing Address
Phone #

Dear FEMA,

On MM/DD/YYYY, I received a letter stating [describe the letter with which you disagree]. I am appealing your decision because [include detailed justification on why you believe you are eligible or should receive more funds]. I have attached the following supporting documentation [ensure you provide documentation supporting your appeal such as receipts, verifiable contractor estimates, or other supporting documentation].

Signature

3 Ways To Submit Your Appeal

Online DisasterAssistance.gov (Upload to your account)

By Fax 800-827-8112 (Attention FEMA)

By Mail FEMA National Processing Service Center
P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055
July 31, 2021
DR-4607-MI NR-010
FEMA News Desk: 312-408-4455, FEMA-R5-news-desk@fema.dhs.gov
EMHSD contact: Dale R. George, 517-284-3946

News Release

More Than $43 Million in Federal Assistance Already Approved for Southeast Michiganders

CHICAGO – More than $43 million has already been approved in FEMA grants and U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loans to help residents affected by the June 25-26, 2021, flooding in southeast Michigan.

Here is a snapshot of the disaster recovery effort as of July 30:

- More than 13,000 households have been approved for nearly $40 million in FEMA grant funding, including:
  - More than $34.2 million in housing grants, including short-term rental assistance and home repair costs.
  - Nearly $5.5 million approved for other essential disaster-related needs such as expenses related to medical, dental, and lost personal possessions.
- Nearly 19,000 home inspections have been completed.
- Five Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) and two Document Drop-off Centers (DDCs) have been opened in the declared areas of Wayne and Washtenaw counties, to provide individuals with in-person help through their application process.
- The SBA has approved $3.37 million in low-interest disaster loans, with more than 100 loan applications approved.

Individuals in Washtenaw and Wayne counties with uninsured or underinsured losses from the June 25-26 storms are encouraged to apply for federal assistance.

There are several ways to register:

1. Online at DisasterAssistance.gov;
2. Using the FEMA App; or