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News Release

Disaster Recovery Centers Open in St. Clair County

SPRINGFIELD – Two FEMA/State Disaster Recovery Centers will open Tuesday, October 1, 2024, to help residents kickstart their recovery after the July 13 - 16, 2024, severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds and flooding.

Specialists from FEMA, the state of Illinois and the U.S. Small Business Administration will be at the centers to help survivors apply for federal disaster assistance, upload documents, get their questions answered in person, access other types of help that may be available and learn ways to make their property more disaster resistant.

The centers will be open at the following locations, days and hours:

Southwestern Illinois Justice & Workforce Development Campus

2300 W. Main Street
Suite M117 (City of Belleville Office Bldg.)
Belleville, IL 62226

Hours: Mon. - Sun. 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Cahokia Heights Fitness and Community Center

509 Camp Jackson Road Cahokia Heights, IL 62207 Hours: Mon. – Sun. 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Additional recovery centers will be opening in other impacted counties soon. To find the center nearest you, visit <u>FEMA.gov/DRC</u>. Survivors may visit any center for assistance.

Assistance in languages other than English, including American sign language, and translated materials are available at these centers. Disaster Recovery Center locations are chosen for their accessibility, with the goal of reaching as many people as possible. Accessible parking spaces are available at all centers.

Survivors don't need to visit a Disaster Recovery Center to apply for FEMA assistance. To apply without visiting a center, go online to <u>DisasterAssistance.gov</u>, download the <u>FEMA mobile app</u> or call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. If you use a relay service such as video relay service, captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service when you apply.

For even more information about the disaster recovery operation in Illinois, visit www.fema.gov/disaster/4819.

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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. If you use video relay service, captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA your number for that service.

Learn more at fema.gov September 2024 2