



TDEM



FEMA

Disaster News

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DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS OPEN SATURDAY AND MONDAY IN STARR, HIDALGO COUNTIES

LAREDO, Texas – The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announce the opening of Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) Saturday in Starr County and Monday in Hidalgo County for those affected by Hurricane Alex beginning on June 30, 2010, and subsequent flooding.

The fixed DRC in Starr County will open at noon on Saturday and is located:

Starr County Courthouse Annex
100 N. FM 3167
Rio Grande City, TX 78582

After Saturday the hours are 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. Sunday until further notice.

The fixed DRC in Hidalgo County will open at 9 a.m. on Monday and is located:

Hidalgo County Courthouse Annex
100 E.Cano
Edinburg, TX 78539

Hours are 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. Sunday until further notice.

Disaster survivors are encouraged to register for assistance first by calling **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585** for the hearing- or speech-impaired. Tele-registration hours are 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. seven days a week. Those affected by the hurricane can also register online at www.disasterassistance.gov or visit a DRC to meet face-to-face with recovery specialists.

Registering before visiting a DRC will shorten your time spent at the center. Visiting a DRC is not required to be considered for assistance.

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Representatives of the state, federal and voluntary agencies, as well as customer service representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), will be available at the center to answer questions and provide disaster loan information to homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes. Written materials about various assistance programs are also available to individuals and business owners. **No cash, checks, debit cards or vouchers are distributed at DRCs.** Centers are for the dissemination of information to assist in victim recovery.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders 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.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private, nonprofit organizations fund repairs or rebuilding efforts, and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. For information about SBA programs, applicants may call (800) 659-2955 (TTY 1-800-977-8339).