

Aug. 16, 2010
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Disaster News

CAMERON, MAVERICK COUNTIES TO HOST FEMA MOBILE DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS

LAREDO, Texas – The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announce the opening of mobile Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) Tuesday in Cameron and Maverick Counties for those affected by Hurricane Alex flooding.

The mobile DRC in Cameron County will open at noon on Tuesday and is located:

Port Isabel Annex
505 Highway 100
Port Isabel, TX 78578

After Tuesday the hours are 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday through Friday.

The mobile DRC in Maverick County will open at noon on Tuesday and is located:

Old Pizza Hut
Mall of the Aguilas
455 S. Bibb
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

After Tuesday the hours are 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday through Friday.

Disaster survivors are encouraged to register for assistance before visiting the DRCs 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.

Even though FEMA encourages DRC visits, doing so is not required to be considered for assistance.

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 recovery.

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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 Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) coordinates the state emergency management program, which is intended to ensure the state and its local governments respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters, and implement plans and programs to help prevent or lessen the impact of emergencies and disasters. TDEM administers disaster recovery and hazard mitigation grant programs in the State of Texas, and implements programs to increase public awareness about threats and hazards, coordinates emergency planning and provides an extensive array of specialized training for emergency responders and local officials. Visit <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem> for more information.

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.

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).