

# Daily Fact Sheet 015

## Key Messages

- FEMA has approved **\$3,001,298** for individuals and families affected by a severe storm and flooding.
- On January 30, 2024, President Joseph R. Biden Jr. granted a Major Disaster Declaration for the State of Maine triggering the release of Federal funds to help individuals recover from a Severe Storm and Flooding that occurred December 17-21, 2023.
- The President's action makes federal funding available to affected individuals in Androscoggin, Franklin, Kennebec, Oxford, and Somerset Counties. Assistance can include grants for temporary housing, uninsured or underinsured home repairs and personal property, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster.
- 10 Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) crews canvassed in the municipalities Leeds, Wales, Lewiston, Turner, Peru, Woodstock, Paris, Hanover, Canton, Newry, Milton Township, Oxford, Waterford, Dixfield, Fryeburg, Sumner, West Paris, Otisfield, Gilead, Greenwood, Lincoln Plantation, Byron, Hartford, Stoneham, Lovell, Chesterville, Salem, Fairfield, Madison, New Portland, Smithfield, Athens, Mercer, Monmouth, Vassalboro, Oakland, Belgrade, Mount Vernon, West Gardiner, Readfield, Manchester, and Pittston. **To date, 1,455 survivor registrations have been completed.**
- Manchester (Kennebec County) DRC open Manchester Fire Department, 18 Readfield Road, daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Farmington (Franklin County), University of Maine – Roberts Learning Center, 270 Main St., daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Lewiston (Androscoggin County) DRC open 65 Central Ave, daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Rumford (Oxford County) DRC open 150 River Street, daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Skowhegan (Somerset County) DRC open 4 County Drive, daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

## Ways to Apply to FEMA

- By phone at **1-800-621-3362**. Help is available in most languages. If you use video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or other relay service, give FEMA your number for that service. Phone lines operate from **7 a.m. to 11 p.m.** seven days a week.
  - The deadline to apply for FEMA disaster assistance is **April 1**.

- If you are planning to apply for FEMA assistance, knowing what you will be asked and what information you need to have handy can help you feel ready. Things to have handy include:
  - The Social Security number for the head of household/applicant and any co-applicant.
  - The address and phone number where you are staying.
  - The description of damage to your home. Be sure to share updates with FEMA so we can continue to review your case.

## Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)

- Employees or self-employed individuals in Maine who became unemployed as a direct result of the severe storm and flooding, may be eligible to receive Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA). Eligible survivors are encouraged to apply for disaster assistance.
- To be eligible for DUA, the individual must be determined ineligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits under any state or federal law. Claimants must first apply for state unemployment benefits by visiting [Maine Department of Labor's Bureau of Unemployment Insurance](#) self-service portal. An application must be submitted by **March 4, 2024**. DUA claims filed after this deadline may be ineligible.

## U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

- SBA disaster loans are the largest source of federal disaster recovery funds for survivors. Businesses, homeowners, renters, and certain nonprofits that were affected may apply online for low-interest disaster loans using SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at **800-659-2955** or email [DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov](mailto:DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov) for more information. Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call **800-877-8339**.

## Get More Information

- For additional online resources as well as FEMA downloadable pamphlets and other aids, visit [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov) and click "Information."
- For official information on the Maine recovery effort, visit [www.fema.gov/disaster/4754](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4754).

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

*All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, you can call the Civil Rights Resource line at 833-285-7448.*