

# Daily Fact Sheet 008

## Key Messages

- FEMA has approved **\$1,309,992** for individuals and families affected by a severe storm and flooding.
- On January 31, 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 the counties of 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.

## DSA and DRC Openings

- 10 Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) crews canvased in the municipalities of Auburn, Bingham, Poland, Minot, Mechanic Falls, Rumford, Mexico, Phillips, Wilton, Wyman Township, Skowhegan, Norridgewock, and Vassalboro. **872 survivor registrations have been completed.**
- Farmington (Franklin County) DRC open Tuesday, February 13, 2024, University of Maine – Roberts Learning Center, 270 Main St., Daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Lewiston (Androscoggin County, ME) DRC open 65 Central Ave, Daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Rumford (Oxford County, ME) DRC open 150 River Street, Daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Skowhegan (Somerset County, ME) 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 others, give FEMA your number for that service. Phone lines operate from **7 a.m. to 10 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:
  - Each family member's Social Security number.
  - The address where you are staying and what the phone number is.
  - The amount 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](https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4754).

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