



Joint Field Office
75 N. Fair Oaks Ave., 3rd Floor
Pasadena, CA 91103

FEMA

November 2, 2007
DR-1731-CA NR-08
FEMA: 626-431-3178
OES: 626-627-3095
SBA: 916-847-2638

Disaster News

SAN BERNARDINO AND SANTA CLARITA LOCAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS TRANSITION TO DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS; CASTAIC CENTER TO CLOSE

PASADENA, Calif. – The Local Assistance Center (LAC) in San Bernardino at the National Orange Show Fairgrounds, 689 South “E” Street will transition to a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) at noon today, Nov. 2. The LAC in Santa Clarita at the George A. Carvalho Santa Clarita Sports Complex - Activities Center, 20880 Centre Pointe Parkway will transition to a DRC on Monday, Nov. 5.

The name change does not change the basic intent: providing vital disaster assistance information. The centers provide one-stop shopping for recovery information from representatives of the state, federal, and voluntary agencies, as well as loan officers from the U.S. Small Business Administration. These recovery experts are available to answer questions and provide recovery information. Written materials about various assistance programs are also available to individuals and business owners. Visiting a DRC is not required to be considered for assistance.

Hours will be Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and closed on Sundays.

Disaster victims are encouraged to register for federal and state assistance first by calling **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585**. Phone lines are open twenty-four hours, daily. Those affected by the fires can also register online at www.fema.gov.

In addition, the LAC at the Castaic Regional Sports Complex, 31230 North Castaic Road has successfully served those who needed disaster recovery information and will close on Sunday, Nov. 4 at 2 p.m. However, those who may need additional information or want to check on the status of their application may call the above FEMA toll-free number or visit another nearby center.

The following local assistance centers locations remain open until further notice.

San Diego County

Rancho Bernardo Glassman Recreation Center at 18446 West Bernardo Drive, Rancho Bernardo.
Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

-more-

**Page 2 of 2 - SANTA CLARITA LOCAL ASSISTANCE CENTER TO BECOME
DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER**

Ramona Community School at 1710 Montecito Road, Ramona.

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Fallbrook Community Center at 341 Heald Lane, Fallbrook.

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Rancho San Diego Cuyamaca College at 900 Rancho San Diego Parkway, El Cajon.

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Orange County

One Stop Center/Strip Mall at 125 Technology Way, Suite 200, Irvine

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) coordinates overall state-agency response to major disasters in support of local government. OES is also responsible for maintaining the State Emergency Plan and coordinating the California's preparedness, mitigation and recovery efforts.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, economic status or retaliation. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, you should call FEMA toll-free at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or contact your State Office of Equal rights. If suspicious of any abuse of FEMA programs, please contact the fraud hotline at 1-800-323-8603.

Temporary housing assistance from FEMA does not require that an applicant file for an SBA loan. However, an applicant must complete an SBA loan application to be eligible for additional assistance under the part of the Other Needs Assistance (ONA) program that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses. There are other ONA grants such as public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses that do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan to be eligible. FEMA will process applications for housing assistance regardless of whether the applicant has applied for an SBA loan, and eligibility determinations for applicants requesting FEMA's temporary housing assistance will not be held up because the applicant has or has not filled out an SBA application.

###