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FEMA

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Disaster News

DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER TO OPEN IN RUNNING SPRINGS

PASADENA, Calif. — San Bernardino County residents, recovering from Southern California wildfires, can get disaster recovery information at the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) opening on Monday, Nov. 5 at 9 a.m. The center is located at the Robert Hootman Senior Community Center, 2929 Running Springs School Rd., in Running Springs.

Representatives of state, federal, and voluntary agencies will be available to answer questions and provide recovery information on things such as:

- California's State Supplemental Grant Program (SSGP);
- FEMA housing assistance;
- U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest disaster loans for homeowners, renters, and businesses of all sizes;
- The National Flood Insurance Program to guard against losses from mudslides where vegetation has burned off;
- Disaster unemployment assistance;
- Mental health services;
- Local government such as county assessor, environmental health, etc.;
- Tax assistance;
- Advice on and assistance with insurance claims; and
- Information on other state disaster assistance programs.

Disaster victims are encouraged to register for assistance before visiting the center by calling **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585**. Those affected by the fires can also register online at www.fema.gov.

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

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.

Page 2 of 2 - DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER TO OPEN IN RUNNING SPRINGS

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.

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