

Daily Fact Sheet – Nebraska Recovery

FEMA funding is now available to homeowners and renters in Douglas and Washington counties who suffered uninsured damage and losses caused by recent tornadoes and storms that struck Nebraska April 25-27. President Joe Biden approved Gov. Jim Pillen’s request for a major disaster declaration.

Key Messages

- FEMA can provide money to eligible applicants for help with serious needs, paying for a temporary place to live, home repairs and other needs not covered by insurance.
- Here’s how to apply for FEMA assistance:
 - Visit DisasterAssistance.gov
 - Call FEMA directly at 800-621-FEMA (3362)
 - Download and use the [FEMA app](#)
 - Anyone using a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, can give FEMA the number for that service.
- Money provided by FEMA does not have to be repaid and may include help for:
 - Serious needs, such as food, water, medicine, baby formula, etc.
 - Displacement assistance, such as hotel stays, if you can’t live in your home because of the damage
 - Home repairs, including accessibility features
 - Rental assistance
 - Other needs, such as repair or replacement of personal property like furniture, computer, and vehicle, and increased childcare costs and storage costs
- By law, FEMA is not allowed to pay for losses covered by insurance, so please stay in close contact with your insurance agency. You are encouraged to apply whether you have insurance or not. Only damage and needs related to the storms of April 25-27 are eligible.

FEMA Teams are Visiting Local Neighborhoods in Nebraska

FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) teams are canvassing neighborhoods affected by the disaster, in coordination with state and county emergency management.

DSA personnel help homeowners and renters apply with FEMA and quickly identify and address immediate and emerging needs. They also can provide application status updates and referrals to additional community resources.

FEMA DSA staff can easily be identified by their federal photo identification and FEMA clothing. Nebraska residents are reminded to ask for official photo identification before providing personal information.

FEMA Home Inspections

FEMA housing inspectors are working in Douglas and Washington counties, inspecting damage reported by people who have applied with FEMA. Inspectors will call or text to make an appointment before coming to a home. They will display official photo identification. If the official ID is not visible, it's OK to ask to see it. This helps prevent fraud.

In general, people without insurance will be contacted first. Applicants who have insurance may be contacted for an inspection after they send FEMA a copy of the declarations page from their insurance policy or settlement information.

Have This Information Ready When You Apply with FEMA

Only one registration per household is needed. When you apply, please have the following information available:

- Address with Zip Code
- Condition of your damaged home
- Basic list of your property damage, losses and needs
- Insurance information, if you have insurance, including the policy number
- Social Security Number of one member of the household
- Phone number where you can be contacted
- Address where you can get mail or an email address
- Bank account information for direct deposit of funds

Disaster Recovery Websites and Social Media Channels

Please visit these websites and follow us on social media for timely and accurate information.

Websites:

- Nebraska Emergency Management Agency: [nema.Nebraska.gov](https://nema.nebraska.gov)
- FEMA's Nebraska Recovery Page: fema.gov/disaster/4778
- Download and use the [FEMA app](#)

Social Media:

- Facebook, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency: <https://www.facebook.com/nema.page/>
- X (Formerly Twitter), Nebraska Emergency Management Agency: twitter.com/nematweets
- FEMA Region 7: twitter.com/femaregion7

Red Cross Financial Assistance

The American Red Cross has financial assistance available for people whose primary home was destroyed or is unlivable due to the recent storms and tornadoes. If you have questions about American Red Cross financial assistance or other services call 1-800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767).

Preventing Fraud

Many legitimate disaster assistance personnel also may visit your property. This can include insurance agents, damage inspectors, state and local officials and FEMA and U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) staff.

FEMA employees do not ask for money – or accept money – from disaster survivors. FEMA staff never charge applicants for disaster assistance, inspections or help with registration.

Fraud Awareness Tips

- Ask to see ID badges. All FEMA personnel wear a federal photo ID badge. A FEMA shirt or jacket is not absolute proof of identity. If you are unsure or uncomfortable with anyone you encounter, please contact local law enforcement.
- Beware of people claiming to be building contractors going door-to-door. People knocking on doors at damaged homes or phoning homeowners claiming to be building contractors could be con artists, especially if they ask for personal information or ask for money.
- FEMA does not have “approved” contractors. Beware of building contractors who say they are affiliated with FEMA. Don’t sign anything you don’t understand, or contracts with blank spaces.
- If you have knowledge of fraud, waste, abuse or allegations of mismanagement involving disaster relief operations, call the National Center for Disaster Fraud Hotline at 866-720-5721.
- Always use licensed and bonded contractors and ask for credentials. Never pay for anything in advance of work being done.

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