

February 7, 2017

Weekly IGA Advisory

**** Gatlinburg Disaster Recovery Center Ends Operations Feb. 10****

**** FEMA Approves PPDR Funding for Sevier County, Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge ****

Individual Assistance

- **As of COB Feb. 6**
 - Registrations approved for assistance: **404**
 - Individuals and Households Program amount approved: **more than \$3 million**
 - Housing Assistance approved: **more than \$1.5 million**
 - Other Needs Assistance approved: **nearly \$1.5 million**
 - Percentage of housing inspections completed: **99 percent**
- Federal disaster assistance is available to individuals and households affected by the **Nov. 28 to Dec. 9** wildfires in **Sevier County**.
- Major Disaster Declaration: **Dec. 15**.
- The deadline to register for disaster assistance is **Monday, Feb. 13**.
- **Tennessee's disaster survivors may register for FEMA assistance the following ways:**
 - Online at DisasterAssistance.gov (also in Spanish).
 - Download [the FEMA mobile app](#) (also in Spanish).
 - Call the FEMA Helpline at **800-621-3362 (FEMA)**. Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability and use a **TTY** may call **800-462-7585**. Toll-free numbers are open daily from **7 a.m. to 10 p.m.** Help is available in most languages.

Message of the Day

Gatlinburg Disaster Recovery Center Ends Operations Feb. 10

- The Gatlinburg disaster recovery center will end operations Friday but survivors of the Sevier County wildfires still have until Monday to register with FEMA for disaster assistance.
- The recovery center will operate from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. this week and end operations at close of business Friday. (See table below.)
- After the center closes, disaster survivors whose homes or businesses were affected by the wildfires can still get updates about applications, learn about the appeals process or check the status of their claims.

- Less than a week is left for individuals and households and those who were working in or visiting Sevier County to register for assistance for the wildfires. The registration deadline is **Feb. 13**.

Key Messages

More Than \$10 Million in Federal Disaster Aid Approved for Sevier County Wildfires

- Survivors of the Sevier County wildfires have been approved for **more than \$10 million** in FEMA disaster assistance and loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- FEMA's Individuals and Households Program approved **more than \$3 million** in disaster assistance
- SBA loans to homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes totaled **more than \$7 million, including:**
 - **more than \$4.2 million** in loans to homeowners and renters
 - **nearly \$2.8 million** in loans to businesses for physical disaster damage and working capital.
- Additionally, **1,287 survivors** visited the two disaster recovery centers and the Multi Agency Resource Center that were established during the recovery.

FEMA Approves PPDR Funding for Sevier County, Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge

- FEMA has approved the state's request for funding of debris removal, with some conditions, from private roads and rights-of-way following the Nov. 28 to Dec. 9 wildfires.
- Funding under FEMA's Public Assistance program covers Sevier County and the cities of Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg.
- Funding is approved for limited private property debris removal from residential and commercial property, for limited demolition on privately owned property and for the removal of standing dead trees and stumps/root balls on private property.
- Approval of private property debris removal is limited to damage directly caused by the wildfires.
- Under the Public Assistance program, FEMA obligates 75 percent funding to the state and the remaining 25 percent is provided by non-federal funds. The state forwards the federal funds to the eligible local governments or organizations that incurred costs for private property debris removal.

Open Disaster Recovery Centers

- The Gatlinburg disaster recovery center will end operations at close of business **Friday, Feb. 10**, but survivors of the Sevier County wildfires still have until Monday to register with FEMA for disaster assistance.
- Survivors may call FEMA’s Helpline at **800-621-3362 (FEMA)** for updates about applications. Visiting a center is not required to register for disaster assistance. (See table below.)

County	Address	Regular Hours of Operation
Sevier	Gatlinburg Community Center 156 Proffitt Rd. Gatlinburg, TN 37738	Feb. 7 to Feb. 10: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Feb. 10: FINAL DAY OF OPERATIONS

U.S. Small Business Administration

As of COB Feb. 6

- Amount approved for SBA business and home loans: **more than \$7 million.**
- For more information or to get answers to questions about SBA disaster programs, businesses and residents should call SBA’s Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at **800-659-2955**, email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov or visit sba.gov/disaster. Deaf or hard-of-hearing individuals may call **800-877-8339**.
- Applicants may also apply online using the electronic loan application via SBA’s secure website at disasterloan.sba.gov/ela.

Online Resources

- For updates on Tennessee’s wildfire response and recovery, follow [@FEMARegion4](https://twitter.com/FEMARegion4) on Twitter and visit TNEMA.org/, MountainTough.org/ and fema.gov/disaster/4293.

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