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Disaster News



Mississippi Emergency Management Agency – Federal Emergency Management Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lafayette County Designated for Public Assistance

COLUMBUS, MS—Federal disaster funds have been made available for Lafayette County to help local governments rebuild public-owned property damaged by the November 10 and 11 severe storms and tornadoes in Mississippi, the head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today.

FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh said the county was declared eligible for public assistance based on a review of damage data gathered by federal and state disaster recovery officials.

“Ensuring that vital community services are restored as quickly as possible is part of our continuing commitment to help Mississippi achieve a full recovery,” Allbaugh said.

Affected state and local government agencies and eligible private nonprofit facilities operating in Lafayette County are eligible to apply for federal funds to pay 75 percent of the approved cost for debris removal, emergency services related to the disaster, and repairing or replacing damaged public facilities, such as roads, buildings and utilities.

The funds were authorized under the major disaster declaration issued by President Bush on November 14, and made available through FEMA’s public assistance program for state and local governments.

Procedures for requesting the assistance will be explained at an applicants’ briefing to be conducted by state and federal disaster officials at a location to be announced shortly in the county.