



REBUILDING

A Guide for Disaster Survivors

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Issue 9

Governor requests federal public assistance for five southern Indiana counties

Governor Mitch Daniels today requested that President Barack Obama provide federal public assistance to five counties in southern Indiana affected by severe storms and tornadoes that occurred from February 29 to March 3.

The request for public assistance includes Clark, Jefferson, Scott, Ripley and Washington counties. A sixth county, Warrick, maybe submitted at a later time.

If a disaster declaration for public assistance is granted, state and local governments and certain non-profit organizations in the designated counties would be eligible to apply for federal assistance to pay 75 percent of the approved cost of debris removal, emergency services related to the disaster and repairing or replacing damaged public facilities, such as roads, buildings and utilities.

The request indicated that further damage may be identified and reserved the right to request assistance for additional counties.

Last week, federal assistance for homeowners, renters and businesses in Clark, Jefferson, Ripley, Scott, Warrick and Washington counties was approved. That means individuals may receive such assistance as grants for temporary housing and home repairs and low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses.

NWS forecasts scattered showers and thunderstorms Wed. night for southern Indiana.

Fraud Alert: scammers impersonate American Red Cross workers in tornado affected areas

INDIANAPOLIS –Citizens of the impacted tornado areas have reported receiving calls from individuals identifying themselves as American Red Cross workers.

During the call, residents are asked to leave their home and to pay a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee for debris removal.

The American Red Cross will never call and ask for money for disaster relief services. If anyone calls or shows up at your home representing themselves as part of the American Red Cross and asks for money, report the contact to local law enforcement immediately.

Recovery update

Washington County Health Department has vaccinated 229 people in the New Pekin and Daisy Hill areas.

Salvation Army reports that \$84,250 has been distributed to assist families in need.

Call 2-1-1 to request assistance or to ask recovery questions

IDHS: Leadership for a safe and secure Indiana

Joint State & Federal Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC)

One Day Holton Disaster Recovery Center

A Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) Team from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be co-located at the Holton Community Center on Wednesday (3/14) from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. to assist residents with disaster related questions. Other one-day DRC locations will be announced when information is available.

Sellersburg Disaster Recovery Center

The Sellersburg DRC located at the Ivy Tech campus at I-65 and Hwy 311(I-65 exit 9) in Sellersburg, IN, will remain open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week until further notice. *(The Sellersburg DRC is co-located with the Sellersburg OSS)*

DRC staff can answer questions about registration for federal disaster assistance and hazard mitigation; and provide information and contacts for other programs.

Representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will be on hand to answer questions about SBA low interest loans.

Indiana residents living nearer to Kentucky may go to FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers located in Kentucky. A person living in an affected area may go to any FEMA DRC site.

You do NOT need to apply in person at any disaster recovery center for FEMA aid.

Homeowners, renters and business owners affected by the storms are encouraged to register for assistance anytime online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling the telephone registration line, 1-800-621-FEMA (3362), which is available from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week.

Survivors are encouraged to call ahead before visiting a DRC.

State agencies at One Stop Shops

American Red Cross– Basic necessities

Bureau of Motor Vehicles – Replacement driver's licenses, identification cards and permits will be provided at no charge to citizens impacted by the disaster. Other services include title replacement, registrations and license plates.

Department of Insurance – Information on lost or damaged policies, obtaining copies of insurance policies, and car insurance assistance.

Department of Workforce Development – Application for state unemployment benefits

Faith Based & Community Initiatives *(Sellersburg only)*

Indiana Department of Health *(Sellersburg only)*

Indiana Dept. of Children's Services *(Sellersburg only)*

Indiana Department of Homeland Security – general disaster recovery information; damage reports

Indiana Family and Social Services Administration – Replacement food stamps for families impacted by the disaster who are currently receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-food stamps) benefits; counseling services

Indiana Housing and Community Development

Authority – List of emergency shelters, temporary housing and rental assistance

Indiana State Department of Health – vaccination information; clean up advice; access and information to vital records – birth and death certificates.

Internal Revenue Service *(Sellersburg only)*

Local Health Dept. for tetanus shots *(Sellersburg only)*

Fraud Alert: Safeguard personal information. IDHS/FEMA will NEVER send email asking for personal information. Inspectors who are confirming damage or calling homeowners for appointments to inspect damage will not ask for sensitive information, and they will never ask for any payments.

Tornado recovery resources

Holton Community Center

7056 West Versailles Street, Holton, IN 47023
Wed. ONLY, 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

- Single-day One Stop Shop
- One-day Disaster Recovery Center

Ivy Tech campus in Sellersburg

I-65 and Hwy 311(I-65 exit 9)
Through Saturday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

- Sellersburg One Stop Shop
- Fixed Disaster Recovery Center

Property reassessments:

Scott County: call the county assessor's office at 812-752-8436, or stop at the office at 1 E. McClain Ave., #150, Scottsburg, IN 47170.

Ripley County: come into the office (812) 689-5656 located at 115 N. Main Street, Versailles, IN 47042 or fill out the online form at <http://www.ripleycounty.com/assessor/>

Warrick County: call (812) 897-6125 before going to the assessor's office located at 1 County Sq. #280, Boonville, IN 47601. <http://www.warrickcounty.gov/warrickassessor>

Jefferson County: come into the office, 300 East Main Street, Room 102, Madison, IN 47250 or go online to complete a form at <http://jeffersoncounty.in.gov/assessor/index.php>

Washington County residents may be eligible to file for disaster petitions. This can be filed only real or personal property. The form can be obtained at the assessor's office or online at www.washingtoncounty.in.gov, or by calling 812-883-4000.

Local insurance assistance:

Clarksville, [State Farm](#), Auto Estimating Drive-Ins, Lowes Parking Lot, 1350 Veterans Parkway. Call 800.732.5246, 7 days a week to schedule an appointment.

Henryville, [American Family Insurance](#), Mobile Customer Service Unit, 866-562-2079, Southwest corner of Hwy 160 and Hwy 31, across from the St. Francis Xavier Church

Henryville, [State Farm](#), Mobile Customer Service Unit, St. Francis Xavier Parish, Hwys 31 & 160

Scottsburg, [Pekin Insurance](#), Mobile Customer Service Unit, Holiday Inn Express, 200 Beechwood Dr., 8 a.m.—6 p.m.; 7 days/week.

New Albany, [State Farm](#), Fire Catastrophe Locations, New Albany OC, 825 Northgate Blvd., Suite 102, 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m. Monday-Friday; call (800) 732-5246.

Assistance for farmers

Farmers may be eligible for assistance with debris removal and fence reconstruction if damage exceeded \$1,000. Contact your local USDA Farm Service Agent:

- Clark Co. 812-256-2330
- Scott Co. 812-752-2269
- Jefferson Co. 812-273-2070
- Ripley Co. 812-689-8410
- Warrick Co. 812-897-2840
- Washington Co. 812-883-3006

Mark your septic field

Residents in the tornado-affected zones need to mark their septic systems to prevent heavy equipment (like bulldozers and dump trucks) from driving over the field, which could cause a collapse of the septic field.

Prevent mosquitoes

With warmer-than-normal spring temperatures, insects are starting to become active. Take steps now to remove and prevent standing water that could become mosquito breeding sites.

Emotional care services available

Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction staff are available at the One-Stop-Shop in Sellersburg 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Residents may call the 24 hour no-cost hotline to talk and get help managing recovery: 1-866-679-4631

LifeSpring: tornado recovery counseling

LifeSpring community mental health center is offering 6 free counseling sessions to children, families and individuals who continue to face the challenge of tornado recovery.

A little assistance from a LifeSpring counselor offers hope, help and stress management techniques. Call 1-812-280-2080 for an appointment or get information from Disaster Mental Health staff.

Health and wellness resources

- **Clark County:** Clark Memorial Medical Center in Henryville at 314 S. Ferguson St. has re-opened. It is located across the street from the Henryville Fire Station. First aid and tetanus shots are available from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Ripley County:** The Red Cross has opened a service center at the Holton Fire Department, located at 40 S. Marion Street, Holton. Health services, caseworkers, and mental health services are available at the service center. The local health department will have a representative at the OSS on Wednesday, 3/14, to provide tetanus vaccinations.
- **Washington County:** The health department is going door to door again Wednesday (3/14) and Saturday (3/17) in an effort to provide residents with tetanus immunizations. After Saturday, residents may continue to receive immunizations at the Washington County Health Department, 8:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The department is located at 806 Martinsburg Rd., Salem, Ind. and can be reached at 812-883-5603 or 812-883-2349.
- **Jefferson County:** The health department will be providing tetanus vaccinations at the community meeting at the Chelsea Church of God this evening, 3/14. Vaccinations are available on an as-needed basis.
- **Scott County:** Residents who need tetanus vaccinations should contact the health department at 812-752-8455. Staff are on call to assist in other counties, if requested.
- Tetanus shots also available at the One Stop Shop in Sellersburg.

Washington County tornado survivors needing assistance from volunteers and persons wanting to volunteer can call 812-967-4682.

The Red Cross is available to help those affected. Call 800-696-3873 for assistance.

Free legal assistance to tornado survivors

The Indiana State Bar Association (ISBA) has established a toll-free legal aid line for survivors. Callers will be matched with local lawyers who have volunteered to provide free legal consultations on matters such as insurance claims, home repair contracts, landlord issues and replacing legal documents.

The number is 1-800-266-2581. Please note that the toll-free number will operate Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EDT). Messages can be left at any time.

This **Saturday, March 17**, from 8 a.m. - 1p.m. There will be eight lawyers providing free legal assistance to anyone seeking legal counsel. They will be located at the Adams Funeral Home in Henryville (209 S. Ferguson Street, Henryville, IN 47126).

Additional Legal Resources: Tornado survivors can also visit the Clark Legal Self Help Center on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Clark Circuit Court located at 501 E. Court Ave., Jeffersonville, IN 47130. For more info., visit www.clarklegalselfhelp.com.

Stay connected to get up-to-date information

Disaster Recovery Website: emergency.in.gov
Apply for FEMA www.fema.gov or (800) 621-FEMA (3362)

Help and Info: Call 2-1-1 (or 317-926-4357)

Red Cross: 800.696.3873

Crisis counseling: 1-866-679-4631

Find buried wires and pipes: Call 8-1-1 (landline only) or 800-382-5544

Twitter: @IDHS

Facebook: Search for "Indiana Department of Homeland Security"

Updates: Text "follow IDHS" to 40404

General Emergency Preparedness Info: GetPrepared.in.gov

Travel Information: <http://indot.carsprogram.org> or 800-261-ROAD (7623)