



Press Release

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For Immediate Release
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Press Release:

State Opens Disaster Assistance Hotline
For Individuals and Families affected by the West Coast Storms

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – The Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management has opened a toll free Disaster Assistance Hotline to assist individuals and families with damages as a direct result of the 2011 West Coast Storm. Residents in the declared disaster area are encouraged to call the toll free hotline and submit an application for assistance to repair or replace damaged homes, personal property, and primary modes of transportation.

Individual Assistance staff will be available to provide information and help disaster survivors of the 2011 West Coast storm apply for the State of Alaska Individual and Family Grant Program (IFG). If it is identified that a home is not habitable due to storm related damages or otherwise poses a health and safety threat, applicants may then be eligible for the Temporary Housing Program.

Applicants who call the toll-free Disaster Assistance Hotline will be asked to describe damages as a direct result of the November 7-13 storm. During the application process, individuals will also document losses with inventory lists, photographs, receipts, or other ownership documents, such as bills of sale, titles, or deeds; insurance information; and personal identification. Individuals who leave a message after hours with contact information will receive a return call by an Individual Assistance staff member.

To apply for IFG Assistance, call
1-855-445-7131
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

"The response effort has concluded, and we are now in the recovery process," said DHS&EM Director John Madden "Many individuals and families sustained damages to their homes and personal property. The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management will work with all available partners to ensure that recovery phase is swift and well-coordinated."

The deadline to apply for Individual Assistance is February 3, 2012.

The state's Individual and Family Grant Program is designed to provide timely assistance to individuals or families to meet eligible disaster-related necessary expenses. In 2010, Governor Parnell introduced successful legislation tripling the maximum possible state Individual Assistance award. The maximum award is currently \$15,700.

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