



FEMA

News Release

Oct. 22, 2010
FEMA 1935-DR-IL-NR044
Contact:
IEMA Patti Thompson (217) 557-4756
FEMA News Desk 571-334-2975

DISASTER ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO FARMERS AND RANCHERS

DOWNERS GROVE, Ill. — Farmers and ranchers in northwest Illinois may be helped by the many disaster assistance programs for people affected by summer flooding.

Assistance could come in the form of grants or low-interest loans. Here is a list of some of those programs:

U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):

- Farmers and ranchers could be eligible for Individual Assistance (IA) for their primary residence; IA provides grants for essential home repairs, temporary disaster housing, and other serious, disaster-related needs not covered by insurance or other assistance programs.
- Owners of flood-damaged residential wells and septic systems may receive money to pump a septic tank, perform required repairs or even replace them if the damage is permanent. Homeowners with private wells that were damaged may be eligible for assistance if the well is their sole source of water.
- Grants could be available for repair or replacement of privately-owned roads or bridges that provide the sole access to a primary residence.
- Register online anytime at **www.DisasterAssistance.gov** or call **800-621-FEMA (3362)**, **TTY 800-462-7585** from **7 a.m. to 10 p.m.**, seven days a week.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA):

- Farmers and ranchers could be eligible for low-interest disaster loans for repair of their primary residence (even if it is located on a farm or ranch) and, in some cases, for the privately-owned road leading to it.
- Economic Injury Disaster Loans may be available to help small agricultural cooperatives and most private, nonprofit organizations to meet financial obligations that cannot be met due to the disaster.
- Low-cost disaster loans could be available for non-agricultural businesses operated on a farm or ranch, as long as the business financial records are separate from the agricultural enterprise.
- For more information, go online at **www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance** or call **1-800-659-2955** (TTY **1-800-877-8339**).

###

Follow FEMA online at www.twitter.com/fema, www.facebook.com/fema, and www.youtube.com/fema. Also, follow Administrator Craig Fugate's activities at www.twitter.com/craigatfema. The social media links provided are for reference only. FEMA does not endorse any non-government websites, companies or applications.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.