



Oregon
February 16, 1996

Recovery Times

"People Helping People"



FEMA
Issue 1



President Clinton looks at fortifications along the seawall in Portland. Floodwaters approached the top of the wall during flooding last week in Portland, threatening Portland's downtown.

Photo by AP Wide World
Photos/Steve Slocum

FEMA is Here to Help You For as Long as it Takes

As flood waters began to inundate the state of Oregon, the **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** immediately sent disaster teams to help.

This prompt response enabled President Clinton to issue a major disaster declaration within hours of receiving a request from Gov. John A. Kitzhaber.

FEMA, in partnership with the Oregon Emergency Management OEM mobilized disaster response teams from across the country. The deployment of field personnel assured an efficient response to the home owners, renters and business people who are affected by this disaster.

"We're pleased that the federal government is helping Oregon residents cope with this disaster," Gov. Kitzhaber said. "The federal-state partnership enables us to provide victims with access to a wide range of disaster recovery assistance."

"Federal, state, volunteer and local emergency workers have pooled their resources in a united effort on behalf of the residents of Oregon," FEMA Director James L. Witt said. "The fast, efficient response enabled us to begin delivering aid to the citizens of Oregon even before flood waters had receded. Although assistance will not make people completely whole after a disaster, it will help them begin the healing process."

"Disaster victims shouldn't hesitate to ask us for help," Federal Coordinating Officer Richard Buck said. "We want the opportunity to help them recover as quickly as possible. We want all victims of this disaster to know we are concerned about their needs and doing everything we can to support their recovery efforts."

Buck urged anyone in the affected counties who suffered losses as a result of the flooding to start the application process by calling toll-free **1-800-462-9029**, TDD **1-800-462-7585**. The lines are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week.

Important Recovery Information:

Register by Phone

Oregonians whose homes and vehicles suffered damage as a result of the winter floods are urged to apply for disaster assistance by phone. Call **1-800-462-9029** from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week to register. The number is **1-800-462-7585** if you are hearing-impaired.

"We want to be sure that everyone who is eligible for disaster assistance understands how easy it is to apply," Federal Coordinating Officer Richard Buck said. "We encourage all who have suffered damage to call as soon as possible. Help is just a toll-free phone call away."

Disaster Housing Assistance

FEMA offers three kinds of grants to help homeowners and renters whose primary residences are not livable. Funds may pay for alternate rental housing, essential repairs to make the home habitable, or help for those facing eviction or foreclosure because of the flood.

U.S. Small Business Administration

Don't let the name confuse you. During disasters, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) provides loans to homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes that are not adequately insured. You can't beat the low interest rates and attractive loan terms.

National Flood Insurance

Disaster victims insured with the National Flood Insurance Program are eligible to file claims to repair or replace their damaged homes and personal property. Flood insurance to protect against future flood losses can be purchased through your local insurance agent.

Apply By Phone

1-800-462-9029

(TDD: **1-800-462-7585**)

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week

Toll-Free