



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes
SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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Tropical Storm Lee Survivors in Virginia can Apply for SBA Assistance

WASHINGTON – Residents and businesses affected by the severe weather resulting from Tropical Storm Lee on Sep. 8-9 can apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration, SBA Administrator Karen G. Mills announced today.

Mills made the loans available in response to a letter from Virginia Gov. Robert F. McDonnell on Nov. 9, requesting a disaster declaration by the SBA. The declaration covers Fairfax and Prince Williams counties, and the neighboring cities and counties of Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fauquier, Loudoun, Manassas, Manassas Park and Stafford in **Virginia**; Charles, Montgomery and Prince George’s counties in **Maryland**; and the **District of Columbia**.

“The SBA is strongly committed to providing the people of Virginia with the most effective and customer-focused response possible to assist homeowners, renters, and businesses of all sizes with federal disaster loans,” said Administrator Mills. “Getting businesses and communities up and running after a disaster is our highest priority at SBA.”

“Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property,” said Frank Skaggs, director of SBA’s Field Operations Center East in Atlanta. SBA’s customer service representatives will be on hand at the Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to answer questions about the disaster loan program, explain the process, issue and help individuals complete their applications.

The Centers will be located in the following communities and the hours of operation are as indicated:

SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers

<p><u>Fairfax County</u> South County Government Center 8350 Richmond Highway – Room 125 Alexandria VA 22304</p>	<p><u>Prince William County</u> Frelazzo Building 15941 Donald Curtis Drive – Suite 140 Woodbridge VA 22191</p>
<p>Open: Wed, Nov. 16 thru Tue, Nov. 22 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sat, Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (closed Sunday) Closing: Tue, Nov. 22 at close of business</p>	

“Businesses and non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets,” said Ronald Bew, SBA’s Virginia district director.

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The SBA may increase a loan up to 20 percent of the total amount of disaster damage to real estate and/or leasehold improvements, as verified by SBA, to make improvements that lessen the risk of property damage by future disasters of the same kind.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small aquaculture businesses and most private nonprofit organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 2.5 percent for homeowners and renters, 3 percent for non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

Individuals and businesses unable to visit the Center may obtain information on loan applications by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Loan applications can also be downloaded from www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be returned to the Center or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Those affected by the disaster may also apply for disaster loans electronically from SBA's website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **January 13, 2011**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **August 14, 2012**.

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For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Program, visit our website at www.sba.gov.