

The Bandera PROPHECY

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FEMA to offer guidance when applying for disaster assistance

By Jessica Nohealapa'ahi
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Bandera County Emergency Management Coordinator Carey Reed said the Texas Department of Emergency Management plans to send a FEMA volunteer liaison to churches, libraries and other non-profit entities to help people who had damages and losses during the February freeze apply for assistance.

Reed said the liaison will provide guidance on what documentation to provide, how to navigate the website and when to go to the Small Business Administration rather than FEMA. The deadline to apply for assistance, Reed said, is April 20.

According to María E. Figueroa, FEMA Media Relations and Office of External Affairs, people often think they registered for disaster assistance because they reported their losses to county officials.

“When you ask them if they registered with FEMA they say yes, but if you ask them if they have a nine-digit registration number, they say they don't know. If that is the case, they haven't registered for FEMA assistance,” Figueroa said. “As you know, to be on the receiving end of any type of FEMA assistance, individuals who suffered losses due to a disaster need to apply and register with FEMA before any money can be disbursed.”

The FEMA designated counties are Anderson, Angelina, Aransas, Atascosa, Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Bee, Bell, Bexar, Bosque, Bowie, Blanco, Brazoria, Brazos, Brooks, Brown, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cameron, Chambers, Cherokee, Collin, Colorado, Comal, Comanche, Cooke, Coryell, Dallas, Denton, DeWitt, Deval, Eastland, Ector, Ellis, Erath, Falls, Fannin, Fort Bend, Freestone, Galveston,

Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzalez, Grayson, Gregg, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Hays, Henderson, Hidalgo, Hill, Hood, Houston, Howard, Hunt, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Johnson, Jones, Karnes, Kaufman, Kendall, Kleberg, Lavaca, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Llano, Lubbock, Medina, Madison, Matagorda, Maverick, McLennan, Milam, Montague, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Palo Pinto, Panola, Parker, Polk, Robertson, Rockwall, Rusk, Sabine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Scurry, Shelby, Smith, Stephens, Tarrant, Taylor, Tom Green, Travis, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Val Verde, Van Zandt, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton, Wichita, Willacy, Williamson, Wilson, Wise and Wood.