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# News Release

## **Disaster Recovery Centers Open in Alabama for Storm Survivors**

**ANNISTON, AL** — Three Alabama EMA/FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) are opening Monday morning, May 14 in Calhoun, Cullman and Etowah counties.

The DRCs provide a one-stop information center for homeowners and renters who sustained damage as a result of the severe storms and tornadoes from March 19 through March 20, 2018.

“Business owners who had damage and who may be interested in talking to the Small Business Administration about a low-interest business loan also may want to visit one of the DRCs,” said Alabama’s State Coordinating Officer Brett Howard.

Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

The DRCs are located at:

### **Calhoun County**

Jacksonville Community Center  
501A Alexandria Road SW  
Jacksonville, AL 36265

### **Etowah County**

Rainbow City Annex  
4412 Rainbow Dr.  
Rainbow City, AL 35906

### **Cullman County**

Cullman City Hall  
204 Second Avenue NE  
Cullman, AL 35055

“The recovery centers serve as a central location for survivors who need one-on-one help,” said Thomas McCool, FEMA federal coordinating officer for the disaster. “State and federal professionals will be available to assist eligible survivors to get help as quickly as possible.”

(MORE)

At the centers, specialists from the State of Alabama, FEMA, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), nongovernment organizations and the local community are on hand to answer survivor questions. Specialists also can provide information on the types of assistance available to survivors.

Some of the services provided include:

- Guidance regarding disaster recovery.
- Clarification of any written correspondence received.
- Funding for housing repairs and rental assistance.
- Answers to questions, resolutions to problems and referrals to agencies that may provide further assistance.
- Status of applications being processed by FEMA.

Assistance for eligible survivors can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, and for other serious disaster-related needs, such as medical and dental expenses. Applicants also may be referred to SBA to apply for a low-interest disaster loan from SBA. These loans may be available to qualified individuals and families to cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations.

Those with storm damage in affected counties also can register for FEMA assistance online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) or by calling 800-621-3362 from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Multilingual operators are available.

Disaster assistance applicants who use TTY should call 800-462-7585. Those who use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362.

For more information on disaster recovery, go online to Alabama Emergency Management: [ema.alabama.gov](http://ema.alabama.gov) and Twitter: [@AlabamaEMA](https://twitter.com/AlabamaEMA). You also can follow FEMA on Twitter: [@femaregion4](https://twitter.com/femaregion4), Instagram: [@fema](https://www.instagram.com/fema), and Facebook: [@FEMA](https://www.facebook.com/FEMA).

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*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.*

*FEMA's mission: Helping people before, during, and after disasters.*

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*The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners and renters fund repairs or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. For more information, applicants may contact SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center by calling 800-659-2955 (Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call 800-877-8339), emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov), or visiting SBA's Web site at [sba.gov/disaster](http://sba.gov/disaster).*