



# Daily Fact Sheet

## **DR 4420 NE/Severe winter storm, straight-line winds and flooding** April 5, 2019

On March 21, 2019 President Donald J. Trump approved a Major Disaster Declaration for the State of Nebraska, triggering the release of federal funds to help people and communities recover from the severe winter storm, straight-line winds and flooding that began March 9, 2019 and continuing. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are coordinating the recovery operation. A disaster website has been created at [fema.gov/disaster/4420](https://fema.gov/disaster/4420). The website is updated daily. Currently, 487 federal employees, including 407 FEMA employees, are deployed to Nebraska supporting disaster recovery efforts.

## **State of Nebraska and FEMA Will Open Mobile Disaster Recovery Centers in Buffalo, Knox, Saunders and Washington Counties**

The State of Nebraska and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will open Mobile Disaster Recovery Centers in Buffalo, Knox, Saunders and Washington counties. Recovery specialists from FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) at the center will provide information on available services, explain assistance programs and help survivors complete or check the status of their applications.

Center locations and hours:

### **BUFFALO COUNTY**

Gibbon Baptist Church  
705 Court St.  
Gibbon, NE 68840  
Open April 15 through April 19  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. CDT

### **KNOX COUNTY**

Center Community Center  
207 Main St.  
Center, NE 68724  
Open April 9 through April 13  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. CDT

### **SAUNDERS COUNTY**

VFW Hall  
102 S. 24th St.  
Ashland, NE 68003  
Open April 6 through April 10  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. CDT

### **WASHINGTON COUNTY**

Arlington City Auditorium  
410 W. Elm St.  
Arlington, NE 68002  
Open April 9 through April 13  
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. C

Disaster Recovery Centers are currently operating in:

- **Cass County:** Plattsmouth Community/Senior Center (Gymnasium), 308 S. 18th St., Plattsmouth, NE 68048. Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.
- **Dodge County:** Christensen Field House (Community Room), 1710 Christensen Field Road, Fremont, NE 68025. Open 7 a.m., closes April 5 at 7 p.m.
- **Douglas County:** 111 East Front St., Valley, NE 68064. Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.
- **Sarpy County:** 3802 Raynor Parkway, Suite 201, Bellevue, NE 68123. Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

Survivors can visit any open DRC for help. To find the nearest center, go online to [FEMA.gov/DRC](https://www.fema.gov/DRC) or call the Disaster Assistance Helpline at **800-621-3362** or (TTY) **800-462-7585**.

### **Debris Removal a Priority for Communities after Nebraska Flooding**

As local communities coordinate their debris removal process, NEMA, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and FEMA advise residents not to wait to clean up. Document damage with photos or videos. Separate debris into categories and place at the curb. Debris should not block the roadway. For more information, go online to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality at [deq.state.ne.us/](https://deq.state.ne.us/).

### **Individuals & Households Program (IHP)**

Federal funding is available to eligible individuals in Boone, Buffalo, Butler, Cass, Colfax, Custer, Dodge, Douglas, Knox, Nemaha, Richardson, Sarpy, Saunders, Thurston and Washington counties and the Santee Sioux Nation. Additional counties may be designated as damage assessments are completed.

As of April 4:

- **3,731** applicants in designated counties have applied for FEMA Individual Assistance.
- FEMA has approved **\$11,670,418**.

### **First Steps to Recovery**

If you have a homeowner's or flood insurance policy, [file your insurance claim](#) as quickly as possible. Document your damage with photos or video. Make a list of damaged items. Register with FEMA.

Although **FEMA assistance cannot make you whole**, it may help your recovery by providing grants for basic repairs to make your home safe, accessible and secure. FEMA assistance may also provide grants for a temporary place for you and your family to stay while you build your recovery plan.

### **How to Register with FEMA:**

- Online, visit [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.DisasterAssistance.gov).
- On a smart phone, download the **FEMA app** and click on "disaster resources," then "apply for assistance online."
- By phone, call FEMA's toll-free registration line at **800-621-3362** or (TTY) **800-462-7585**; or use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS). Telephone registration is available from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CDT seven days a week.

- Visit a **Disaster Recovery Center** and speak to a FEMA specialist one-on-one. To find the nearest DRC, go online to [FEMA.gov/DRC](http://FEMA.gov/DRC).
- Applicants for disaster assistance should have the following information on hand:
  - Social Security number
  - Address of the damaged primary residence
  - Description of the damage
  - Information about insurance coverage
  - A current contact telephone number
  - An address where they can receive mail
  - Bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of funds

### **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)**

SBA has approved \$218,100 in low-interest homeowner and renter disaster loans to date and is working to process and approve loan applications for businesses and residents as quickly as possible. Businesses and residents can visit [SBA.gov/disaster](http://SBA.gov/disaster) call SBA's Customer Service Center at **800-659-2955** or email [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). TTY users may call **800-877-8339**.

SBA is operating a Business Recovery Center in Sarpy County at **Bellevue University, John Muller Administrative Services Building, 812 Bruin Blvd., Bellevue, NE 68005**. Open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. to assist businesses with their unique application and disaster recovery needs. No appointment necessary.

### **FEMA Teams Going Door to Door**

FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance Teams are working in impacted neighborhoods to help survivors register for assistance and to identify immediate and emerging needs. Teams are operating in Boone, Butler, Cass, Colfax, Dodge, Douglas, Nemaha, Sarpy, Saunders and Washington counties. They have visited more than 4,539 homes.

### **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)**

To date, NFIP has received 986 flood insurance claims in Nebraska and issued \$3,722,510 in advance payments to policyholders.

### **Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) Available**

Workers who live in or worked in counties designated for FEMA Individual Assistance, and whose employment or self-employment was lost or interrupted due to the flooding, may be eligible for assistance.

Individuals can generally receive up to 26 weeks of DUA benefits as long as unemployment continues to be a result of the disaster. Eligibility for DUA benefits will be determined on a week-to-week basis. **The application deadline is April 26, 2019**. General information about DUA can be found at [dol.nebraska.gov/UIBenefits/Programs/DUA](http://dol.nebraska.gov/UIBenefits/Programs/DUA).

### **Assistance for Landowners, Farmers, Ranchers and Producers**

USDA offers many programs that can provide assistance to landowners, farmers, ranchers and producers following disasters, including:

- The Emergency Conservation Program provides funding to rehabilitate farmland damaged by wind erosion, floods, or other natural disasters.

- The Emergency Watershed Protection Program helps protect lives and property threatened by floods, tornadoes, and wildfires.
- The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) assists producers who suffered livestock losses.
- Emergency grazing has been authorized on Conservation Reserve Program acres for all counties in Nebraska until April 30.

For information on these and many other programs, contact your local [USDA Farm Services Agency](#).

### **Tax Relief for Nebraska Survivors**

Individuals who reside or have a business in counties designated for FEMA Individual Assistance may qualify for [federal tax relief](#). This may include additional time to file yearly individual tax returns or quarterly payments. Eligible taxpayers will also have until July 31, 2019, to make 2018 IRA contributions.

### **HUD Assistance for Nebraska Survivors**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is providing support to homeowners and low-income renters forced from their homes due to the recent winter storm and flooding in Nebraska. The disaster declaration allows HUD to offer foreclosure relief and other assistance to eligible families in counties designated for FEMA Individual Assistance. Information about HUD programs designed to assist disaster victims is available on HUD's website at [hud.gov](#).

### **FEMA Public Assistance Program**

Public Assistance (PA) is FEMA's largest grant program, providing [funds to assist communities](#) responding to and recovering from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President. The program provides emergency assistance to save lives and protect property and assists with permanently restoring community infrastructure affected by a federally declared incident.

Currently, 65 counties are designated for Public Assistance: **Adams, Antelope, Blaine, Boone, Box Butte, Boyd, Brown, Buffalo, Burt, Butler, Cass, Cedar, Cherry, Colfax, Cuming, Custer, Dakota, Dixon, Dodge, Douglas, Fillmore, Frontier, Furnas, Gage, Garfield, Gosper, Greeley, Hall, Harlan, Holt, Howard, Jefferson, Johnson, Keya Paha, Knox, Lancaster, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, Madison, Merrick, Morrill, Nance, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Pawnee, Pierce, Platte, Richardson, Rock, Saline, Sarpy, Saunders, Scotts Bluff, Seward, Sherman, Stanton, Thayer, Thurston, Valley, Washington, Wayne, Wheeler and York.**

Five Tribal Nations are [designated for Public Assistance](#): **Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Sac and Fox, Santee Sioux Nation and Winnebago Tribe.**

The counties and Tribal Nations are eligible for reimbursement for debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A-B), including direct assistance, at a federal cost share of at least 75 percent.

NEMA is conducting briefings for Public Assistance grant candidates. The briefings are for state businesses, counties, cities, sanitary enhancement districts, public energy districts, natural assets

districts and other public entities that experienced injury from the March flooding.

### **Information Links:**

- Nebraska Emergency Management Agency: [nema.nebraska.gov/](http://nema.nebraska.gov/)
- Nebraska Impact (Volunteerism): <https://www.nebraskaimpact.com/flood>
- Twitter: [twitter.com/nematweets](https://twitter.com/nematweets)
- Facebook: [facebook.com/nema.page](https://facebook.com/nema.page)
- YouTube: [youtube.com/user/TheNEMAtube](https://youtube.com/user/TheNEMAtube)
- Flickr: [flickr.com/photos/nemapics/](https://flickr.com/photos/nemapics/)
- FEMA: [FEMA.gov](http://FEMA.gov)
- Facebook: [facebook.com/FEMA](https://facebook.com/FEMA)
- Twitter: [twitter.com/femaregion7](https://twitter.com/femaregion7)
- National Flood Insurance Program: [Floodsmart.gov](http://Floodsmart.gov)
- FEMA blog: [fema.gov/blog](http://fema.gov/blog)
- SBA Office of Disaster Assistance: [sba.gov/disaster](http://sba.gov/disaster)

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