

THE STOUFFER REPORT

Senator Bill Stouffer Senate District 21 For the Week of: June 11, 2007

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State of Missouri Receives Federal Disaster Assistance

Missouri has seen its share of natural disasters over the years – from severe storms containing torrential rain, hail, and tornados to our most recent disasters, including winter storms in January and flooding in May.

This week President George W. Bush declared a major disaster for our state in response to Missouri's massive flooding (May 5-18, 2007). Several forms of federal assistance will be available to help Missourians and communities recover from the severe flood waters.

Assistance to individuals and households has been declared for Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Carroll, Chariton, Clay, Daviess, DeKalb, Gentry, Holt, Jackson, Lafayette, Livingston, Morgan, Nodaway, Osage, and Platte counties. (see map below)

The Individuals and Households Program (IHP) provides financial help up to \$28,200 to those who have necessary expenses and serious needs. Housing Assistance — including temporary housing, repair, replacement and permanent housing construction, and Other Needs Assistance — including personal property and other items, are included in the program.

<u>Public Assistance</u> is available to state and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities. Assistance has been declared for Andrew, Atchison, Bates, Carroll, Cass, Chariton, Daviess, Gentry, Grundy, Harrison, Holt, Howard, Livingston, Mercer, Nodaway, Platte, Ray, Saline, and Worth counties. (see map below)

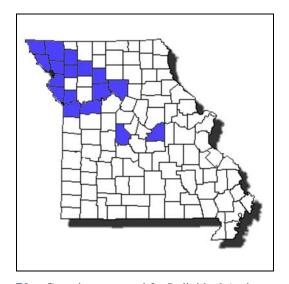
This assistance, designed for public entities, can fund the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of a public facility or infrastructure, which has been damaged or destroyed by a disaster. Certain projects under the Public Assistance Program fall under a

certain threshold — this year reaching \$59,700. Projects within this program are placed into the following categories: debris removal, emergency protective measures, road systems and bridges, water control facilities, public buildings and contents, public utilities, and parks, recreational and other.

Another type of federal assistance, available to all counties in Missouri, is the <u>Hazard</u> <u>Mitigation Grant Program</u>. This program allows state and local governments, as well as certain types of private nonprofit organizations, to take action to prevent or reduce long term risk to life and property from natural hazards.

A toll free number is available by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Missourians and businesses who wish to apply for assistance. The Federal Emergency Management Agency will also notify local officials about meetings designed to explain the assistance process.

Those in the counties listed above and shown below can go online (www.fema.gov) to begin the disaster application process or you can call **1-800-621-FEMA** (3362) or **1-800-462-7585** (for the hearing and speech impaired). If you have questions or comments about any other issue, please call my office toll free (866) 768-3987 or send me an e-mail at bstouffer@senate.mo.gov.



Blue Counties approved for Individual Assistance



Red Counties approved for Public Assistance