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ECONOMIC
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EDC BUSINESS ALERT

GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM'S PRESIDENTIAL EMERGENCY WEATHER DECLARATION

As of January 14, 2023, a presidential declaration for major weather disaster for the state of California has taken into effect due to severe winter storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides. Some counties have been included in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declaration and other counties only qualify for Small Business Administration's (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL). Continue reading to learn about the declarations for Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.

Resources for Ventura County

Funding Resources:

- **FEMA:** Ventura County has **NOT** been added to the FEMA major disaster declaration (FEMA-4683-DR). Continually check the VC Emergency website for updates. [CLICK HERE](#) for additional guidance.
- **SBA:** For businesses impacted by the declared disaster they can apply for the Economic Injury Disaster Loan provided by the SBA. [CLICK HERE](#) for additional guidance.
- **Property Tax Relief for Damaged Property:** Property tax relief may be available to Ventura County property owners whose property sustained more than \$10,000 in damage from the January 9-10, 2023 storms. For additional information on program eligibility, please visit the [Ventura County Assessor's Office](#). To file a claim, complete the [Calamity Application Form](#) and return it to the Ventura County Assessor's Office by email: assessor.disaster@ventura.org. Claims must be filed within twelve months of the date of damage.

Other Resources:

- **Report Storm Damage:** Did your property sustain significant damage related to the January storms? The County of Ventura would like for the information be reported. This information is vital to securing State and Federal assistance for Ventura County Residents.
 - If your property suffered damage as a result of the storms, please complete a damage report by [CLICKING HERE](#).
 - If your agricultural operation suffered damage as a result of the storms, please complete a damage report by [CLICKING HERE](#).
- **Emergency Repair Work:** If your property requires any type of significant

grading work to stabilize or repair damage done by the last storm, please review the following informational handout information and regulations surrounding emergency flood repairs. Download the guide by [CLICKING HERE](#).

- **Assistance With Debris Removal on Private Property:** Sheriff's Emergency Services has partnered with E.J. Harrison & Sons, Inc. to place mud and debris receptacles in storm-damaged areas for private property owners to clear debris and dispose of damaged personal property. Two types of collection containers may be provided at each location. [CLICK HERE](#) for additional guidance.
- **Red Cross Cleanup Kits:** The American Red Cross is providing free storm cleanup kits to assist residents whose property suffered damage from the recent storms and are in need of cleaning and disinfecting supplies. [CLICK HERE](#) for additional guidance.
- **NO-COST Business Consulting:** The EDC Small Business Development Center is providing NO-COST advising to businesses impacted by the disaster, including:
 - Counseling for financial, accounting, marketing and other post-disaster challenges
 - Management and technical assistance
 - Business planning to help business owners re-establish their operations and plan for their future
 - Assistance with updating or rewriting business plans
 - Call 805.409.9159 or [CLICK HERE](#) to get started.

For additional guidance on Ventura County Resources [CLICK HERE](#).

Resources for Santa Barbara County

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, survivors must first contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). As soon as Federal-State Disaster Recovery Centers open throughout the affected area, U.S. Small Business Administration will provide one-on-one assistance to disaster loan applicants.

Funding Resources:

- **FEMA:** Santa Barbara County was added to the FEMA major disaster declaration (FEMA-4683-DR) and individuals are now eligible to apply directly to FEMA for assistance. Residents who incurred financial losses due to storm damage are encouraged to apply for assistance as soon as possible online at www.disasterassistance.gov or by calling 1.800.621.3362. If you are not able to live in your home at this time due to storm impact causing water damage, mold, mud or inability to access your home, please make sure you include this in your application.
- **SBA:** For businesses impacted by the declared disaster it is recommended to first register with FEMA. The Economic Injury Disaster loan is also available for the disaster. The SBA will also be opening Local Assistance Centers in all declared counties. [CLICK HERE](#) for additional guidance.
- **Tax Relief:** Emergency tax or fee relief is available from the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) for taxpayers who have been directly affected by [disasters declared as state of emergencies, both within California and nationally](#). Available services may include the extension of tax return due dates, relief of penalty and interest or replacement copies of records lost due to disasters.
 - Impacted taxpayers can request relief:
 - For the CDTFA Website [CLICK HERE](#)
 - By mail at: California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, PO Box 942879, MIC 35, Sacramento, CA 94279
 - In person at one of their field offices [CLICK HERE](#)
 - By phone at 1.800.400.7115
 - Relief Request FAQs [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Disaster Relief Tax Guide [CLICK HERE](#)

Other Resources:

- **Find help locally:** Staff at Local Assistance Centers will help direct community members to resources regardless of immigration status. In-person assistance is available through the Santa Barbara Public Library's [Community Connections program](#), which offers appointments for one-on-one assistance with navigating community resources and social services. This free service is available in English and Spanish. Appointments can be made by calling (805) 962-7653 or by visiting either [Central Library](#) or [Eastside Library](#).
- **Agricultural Programs:**
 - Agricultural Disasters Resources [CLICK HERE](#)
 - Ag Pass [CLICK HERE](#)
- **USDA Emergency Watershed Protection Program:** The Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program is designed for installation of recovery measures to safeguard life and property as a result of a natural disaster. Threats that the EWP Program addresses are termed watershed impairments. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.
- **NO-COST Business Consulting:** The EDC Small Business Development Center is providing NO-COST advising to businesses impacted by the disaster, including:
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For additional guidance on Santa Barbara County Resources [CLICK HERE](#)

Looking for NO-COST Business Consulting Services?

The EDC SBDC call team and experienced advisors are available to answer questions and help you navigate today's complex business environment. The Economic Development Collaborative hosts the Small Business Development Center and is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Signing up as a client takes just a few minutes and provides you with lifetime access to all of our no-cost services.

Get started today with no-cost consulting by calling our
Business Assistance Line at 805.409.9159.
Resources and advising are available in English and Spanish.

Access our [Loan Program](#) by calling 805.409.9497.

Visit Our Website



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