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## SITUATIONAL AWARENESS UPDATE

COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
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Toni Preckwinkle, *President - Cook County Board of Commissioners*  
Michael G. Masters, *Executive Director*

Date: 19 May 2013  
No. 04

Please report relevant information and direct all media inquiries to the DHSEM DUTYDESK via e-mail: [DUTY.DESK@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:DUTY.DESK@cookcountyil.gov) or phone: (312) 603 – 8180 or (312) 603-8185.

## News Release

### Forget About FEMA?

CHICAGO –You’ve cleaned up and started making the necessary repairs from last month’s storms and flooding. Now the bills are coming due.

Your insurance may cover some of those costs, but if you haven’t registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), you may be missing out on additional assistance you need to recover. Until you register for assistance, FEMA has no way of knowing who you are, where you are, or what you need.

- Calling your insurance agent does not register you with FEMA.
- Contacting county or municipal agencies does not register you with FEMA.
- Receiving assistance from volunteer agencies does not register you with FEMA.

The only way to determine whether you’re eligible for federal disaster assistance is to register with FEMA by phone or online, or by visiting a Disaster Recovery Center. FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance Teams are also registering applicants for assistance in neighborhoods throughout the declared disaster area.

Individuals can register online at [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov) or via web-enabled phone at [m.fema.gov](http://m.fema.gov). Applicants may also call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or (TTY) 1-800-462-7585.

If you use 711-Relay or Video Relay Services (VRS), call 1-800-621-3362. The toll-free telephone numbers operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CDT seven days a week.

FEMA and U.S. Small Business Administration representatives are available at all five state-federal Disaster Recovery Centers now open in Illinois. These centers are open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week.

**Cook County**

Forest View Fire Department  
7010 46th Street  
Forest View, IL

**DuPage County**

Lisle Police Department  
5040 Lincoln Avenue  
Lisle, IL

**Grundy County**

Morris Fire Department  
2301 Ashton Road  
Morris, IL

**LaSalle County**

Marseilles Fire Department  
205 Lincoln Street  
Marseilles, IL

**Fulton County**

Fulton County Health Department  
700 East Oak Street  
Canton, IL

Anyone from a declared county in Illinois can go to any of the above Disaster Recovery Centers. Come with questions – leave with answers.

FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

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