



Snohomish County
Department of Emergency Management
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County Executive

Media Advisory – December 4, 2007

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County asks residents to document and report flood damage

Everett WA, December 4, 2007 - As flood waters recede and citizens return to their homes, the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) is asking residents and businesses to document and submit their estimated flood-damage assessments to the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM).

Preliminary flood damage assessments from all affected counties will be compiled and then submitted with the Governor's request to the President for a federal disaster declaration. If a federal disaster declaration is issued, Snohomish County residents affected by flood damage may be eligible for federal assistance.

"Federal aid will only become available in Snohomish County if a Presidential declaration is issued," said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. "We strongly encourage all residents and business owners to forward their flood damage estimates to our Department of Emergency Management as soon as possible, so that an accurate accounting of our County's property damage can be included in a request by the Governor for federal aid should one occur."

"As soon as it is safe to access flood-damaged property, home and business owners should do a preliminary survey of all damage caused by the flooding," said, DEM Director John Pennington. "These assessments are very important and should be called into the DEM for inclusion in our report. Staff will be waiting to assist property owners with their estimated damages and answer their questions and concerns."

Property owners should call the DEM at (425) 388-5060, with their assessments starting Tuesday, December 4. Should the Governor make a formal request for a presidential declaration, all assessments received by the County will be included in a report to the federal government. Callers can expect to spend about 10 minutes on the phone.

"Residents should take several photographs to document flood related damage," said Pennington. "Providing good visual documentation is a key tool for accurately assessing claims damage."

Property owners are expected to provide preliminary damage estimates only. They will not be held to these assessments should the actual damages be higher or lower.

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State/Interstate Road Conditions: www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic/trafficalerts/
Snohomish County Road Conditions: www.co.snohomish.wa.us/PWApp/roads/emclosure