

Disaster Recovery Center to open in Vernonia for after-storm help

Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have announced the opening of a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in Vernonia on December 13, 2007 for people affected by the severe storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides that began on December 1, 2007.

Disaster victims are urged to register for assistance first by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the hearing or speech impaired. Victims can also register online at www.fema.gov or visit the DRC to meet face-to-face with recovery specialists.

Representatives of the state, federal, and voluntary agencies, as well as customer service representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), will be available to answer questions and provide recovery information. Written materials about various assistance programs are also

available to individuals and business owners. No cash, checks, debit cards or vouchers are distributed at DRCs. These centers are available to provide information and assist in the recovery efforts.

The DRC will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday, until further notice. The DRC will also be open this Sunday from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. and will be located at the Vernonia City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia.

FEMA manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident, initiates mitigation activities and manages the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA works closely with State and local emergency managers, law enforcement personnel, firefighters, and other first responders. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.

SBA is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding

of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private non-profit organizations fund repairs or rebuilding efforts, and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover uninsured and uncompensated

losses and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. For information about SBA programs, applicants may call 800-659-2955.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, economic status or retal-

iation. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, you should call FEMA toll-free at 1-800-621-3362 or contact your State Office of Equal Rights. If suspicious of any abuse of FEMA programs, please contact the fraud hotline at 1-800-323-8603.

State issues emergency insurance order

The Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) issued an emergency order to protect Oregonians from losing insurance coverage because of recent winter storms.

"I want to make sure in this time of recovery that Oregonians affected by these storms will not have to worry about losing their insurance," said Governor Ted Kulongoski.

The order prohibits insurers from canceling or not renewing policies until January 3, 2008, in Lincoln, Tillamook, Clatsop, Columbia, and Yamhill counties.

"The storm has disrupted the lives of many Oregonians, and, as a result, many of them may

not receive a cancellation notice or not be able to pay their insurance premiums on time," said Carl Lundberg, acting administrator of the DCBS Insurance Division. "We want to ensure no one loses insurance coverage because of the storm."

Insurance companies send notices giving consumers time limits to pay premiums or otherwise respond before they cancel or "nonrenew" a policy. Because of storm damage, lack of electricity, and disruption of mail, many storm victims will not receive these notices or may not be able to respond in a timely manner. As a result, some insurers may cancel or not renew policies, leaving

storm victims with no coverage.

In addition to prohibiting insurers from canceling or not renewing policies until January 3, 2008, the order directs insurers to withdraw and reissue any notices of cancellations issued or mailed the week preceding December 3, 2007, and prohibits insurers from canceling or not renewing a policy solely because of a claim resulting from the winter storm.

The order covers personal lines of insurance such as homeowner, auto, health, and personal property. Several other states, such as Florida and Louisiana, have issued similar orders after hurricanes.

Mariolino's Thank You

To all the wonderful people
that helped Vernonia
dry out after the flood!

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Church Directory

NEHALEM VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH

Gary Taylor, Pastor
Grant & North Streets, Vernonia
503 429-5378
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Nursery available
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

VERNONIA FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Carl Pense, Pastor
850 Madison Avenue, Vernonia
503 429-1103
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School

VERNONIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Grant Williams, Pastor
957 State Avenue, Vernonia
503 429-6790
Sunday Breakfast 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 9:45 a.m.
Children and Nursery 10:00 a.m.
Youth Group 6:00 p.m.
Preschool Tues. & Thurs. 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer 7:00 p.m.
Friday Adult Volleyball 7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Luan Tran, Administrator
960 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia
503 429-8841
Mass Schedule
Sunday 12:00 Noon
Religious Education
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

2nd Ave. and Nehalem St., Vernonia
503 429-8301
Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study 9:15 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

359 "A" Street, Vernonia
503 429-5190
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

ST. AUGUSTINE (CANTERBURY) EPISCOPAL CHURCH

375 North St. (Vernonia Grange Hall)
Vernonia, 503 705-2173
Please call for service schedule.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Marc Farmer, Branch President
1350 E. Knott Street, Vernonia
503 429-7151
Sacrament Meeting, Sunday 10 a.m.
Sunday School & Primary 11:20 a.m.
Relief Society, Priesthood and
Young Women, Sunday 12:10 p.m.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Wayne and Maureen Marr
662 Jefferson Ave., Vernonia,
503 429-0373
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

VERNONIA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sam Hough, Evangelist
410 North Street, Vernonia
503 429-6522
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Every Wednesday:
Ladies' Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Ladies' Worship 10:00 a.m.
Children's Choir 3:00 p.m.
Family Bible Study 7:00 p.m.