

# City of Newburgh

## Press Release

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*for immediate release*

May 7, 2007

### **COUNTY DECLARED FEDERAL DISASTER AREA FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES**

**Residents can apply for federal funds to cover storm damage; FEMA still reviewing whether municipalities and schools will qualify for disaster aid**

President Bush has declared Orange County (along with Rockland and Westchester counties) as a federal disaster area following last week's storm, meaning that **local residents and businesses** can start applying for the federal aid that is so badly needed to begin rebuilding. **The disaster number is DR-1692. Individual residents MUST register with FEMA either on-line at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (1-800-621-3362).**

The declaration at this point applies only to individuals and businesses that suffered damage from the storm. County officials have been told that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is still reviewing damage to public facilities – including governments and schools – to determine if they qualify for a federal disaster declaration.

To apply for aid, storm victims will need to take the following steps:

- 1) Contact your insurance company: If you are NOT covered for the storm damage by your insurance company, you may be eligible for federal aid. You will need to obtain a letter from your insurance company saying you are not covered for damage from the storm.
- 2) Apply for FEMA aid: As part of the aid process, FEMA will set up Disaster Recovery Centers where victims may apply for aid or get information about disaster assistance programs. Those centers have not been designated as yet, but information will be forthcoming.

**Residents can also register for aid online at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (1-800-621-3362) (hearing/speech impaired ONLY- call TTY: 1-800-462-7585).**