

Winter Storm Information

The President declared a major disaster in Texas, making federal aid available to individuals in 126 counties.

Of the counties in Senate District 24, 10 are able to apply for Federal Disaster Assistance.

Those Senate District 24 counties are: Bandera, Llano, Taylor, Bell, Blanco, Comanche, Coryell, Gillespie, Travis, Burnet

If Your County Has NOT Been Approved:

The Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) is collecting information from local governments regarding storm damages. TDEM then uses this data to petition the federal government for disaster funds for that county. If your county has not been deemed one of those that is eligible to receive funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), then that means TDEM needs more information from your county.

To help your county get approved, report your property damage to TDEM by visiting tdem.texas.gov/warming-center/ and click on [the Texas Individual Assistance Reporting Tool](#) to begin the process.

If Your County HAS Been Approved for Federal Assistance:

This unlocks federal funding for individuals in Texas. Texas can receive:

- Grants for temporary housing
- Grants for home repairs
- Low cost loans to cover uninsured and underinsured property losses
- Medical, dental, and funeral cost reimbursement related to the storm

This will also provide cost sharing with state and local governments as well as some private nonprofit organizations for emergency protection measures and hazard mitigation measures.

The Department of Homeland Security and FEMA will coordinate these relief efforts.

Applying for Assistance through FEMA

- If you have sustained damage from snow and ice during the winter storms and you have insurance, **contact your insurance company** and then FEMA. Your insurance claim information is needed to determine eligibility for federal assistance.
- FEMA cannot duplicate insurance benefits. FEMA will not provide a full reimbursement, but can help get Texans back on their feet with monetary assistance.
- To prepare to file for FEMA assistance:

- Take photos of your damaged home and belongings
- Make a list of damaged/lost items
- Save yourself time. If you have insurance, **you must file a claim with your insurance company**
- Have ready:
 - A current phone number
 - Your address at the time of the disaster and the address where you are staying
 - Your social security number
 - Your insurance policy number or insurance agent and company name
- Documents you need to provide to FEMA:
 - Insurance determination letter. (Note: FEMA cannot provide assistance for losses that are covered by insurance.)
 - Proof of occupancy or ownership
 - Proof of ID
- When applying online, be sure to select the cause of damages as **snow/ice** among other damages that may have occurred
- If you are uninsured, the fastest and easiest way to apply for assistance is online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov) or by calling 1-800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585)
- FEMA cannot reimburse you for food lost due to a power failure. However, voluntary organizations in your community may be able to help. You can also call 211 for assistance.

Small Business Administration (SBA) Loans

Loans are available both for businesses who suffered physical damage and those who suffered economic injury from being closed during the storm.

Private nonprofit organizations and businesses of all sizes may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed property, equipment, merchandise other business assets. There is also additional funding available to businesses and homeowners to help with improvement projects to prevent or minimize similar disaster damage in the future.

For homeowners, the SBA is offering up to \$200,000 in disaster loans to repair or replace damaged real estate and up to \$40,000 to repair or replace personal property.

The SBA loans carry interest rates as low as 3% for businesses, 2% for private nonprofit organizations and 1.25% for homeowners and renters with terms up to 30 years. The amount of each applicant's loan will be determined by the SBA based on the individual financial situation.

For more information on SBA loans or to apply, call (800) 659-2955 Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CT or email FOCWAssistance@sba.gov during those times.

Local Resources

If you need assistance with anything not covered by insurance, local voluntary organizations in your community may be able to help. You can also [call 211 for assistance](#).

Texas Department of Insurance (TDI)

- TDI [insurance tips following winter storms](#).
- [Look up an insurance company](#) in Texas or call **800-252-3439**.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

- [Disaster assistance](#) for farmers and ranchers.

Texas Farm Bureau

- <https://texasfarmbureau.org/winter-storm-resources-available-from-usda/>

Texas Attorney General

- [Report](#) price gouging or any other scams.

Information for Local Government Officials

FEMA can reimburse for emergency protective measures, debris removal, and infrastructure repairs or replacement needed due to disaster-related damage.

- FEMA will provide reimbursement of at least 75 percent of eligible costs, with the state and local governments sharing the remaining 25 percent of costs. Eligible entities include state governments, local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations, such as schools and public utility districts.
- Although funds are awarded to government entities and certain private nonprofits, the Public Assistance program is intended to benefit everyone — neighborhoods, cities, counties and states. Public Assistance dollars help clean up communities affected by disaster-related debris, repair roads and bridges and put utilities and water systems back in order.
- Emergency Management Coordinators (EMCs) need to ensure that they are reporting numbers regarding damages to TDEM.
- The state has met the threshold for disaster funds, and now each county must meet a threshold for disaster funds as well.
- EMCs are encouraged to circulate this link to the Texas Individual Assistance Reporting Tool (TIART). <https://arcg.is/uOrOb>

- To check whether TDEM has received and verified the numbers the EMC submitted, reference the February Severe Weather Disaster Summary Outline Spreadsheet found here. <https://tdem.texas.gov/disaster-summary-outline-2/>
- EMCs may remember to complete the **disaster deck** for their locality for this February winter storm.

Other

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture approved [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) (SNAP) recipients to apply for replacement benefits for food lost or destroyed due to the severe winter weather by dialing 2-1-1.
 - SNAP recipients need to apply for replacement food benefits for regular SNAP allotments and SNAP emergency allotments that were provided in response to COVID-19.
- To assist people in the impacted area in coping with the stress of the winter storms, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration activated the [Disaster Distress Helpline](#).
 - This toll-free, multilingual and confidential crisis support line provides immediate crisis counseling and support. Residents in affected areas may call or text 1-800-985-5990 to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

Water Distribution Locations in SD 24:

Belton

Portable water is available at these three places:

- Public Works yard, 1502 Holland Rd. (8 a.m. to 6 p.m.)
- Fire Station No. 2, 420 Sparta Rd. (24 hours, self service)
- Harris Community Center, 401 N. Alexander St. (24 hours, self service)

Bring your own container and your driver's license or city utility bill to show you are a Belton water customer.

Killeen

- Community Center Complex Ball Fields, 2201 E. Veterans Memorial Boulevard -- 10 a.m. until supplies are gone
- Special Events Center, 3301 S. WS Young Dr. -- water filling station
- Community Center Ball Fields, 2201 E. VMB -- water filling station
- Haynes Elementary, 3309 W. Canadian River Lp. -- water filling station

Residents must bring their own containers to fill and amounts may be limited on demand, the City said. All water must be boiled prior to consumption and water use should be limited to essential purposes only.

Temple

The City of Temple has both food and bottled water distribution. For emergency food distribution, you can visit the Love of Christ Food Pantry at 2000 Airport Road, Temple from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. All residents needing to access the food pantry should take southbound General Bruce Drive and follow directions of traffic control officials. No access is available from Adams Avenue or Airport Road.

The water distribution sites are below.

- Central Fire Station, 210 N. 3rd St. -- 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday
- Fire Base Brewing Company, 8 S. 1st St. -- [click here to see hours](#)
 - Bring your own container; 2 gallons per household
- Fire Station #2, 1710 E. Ave H. -- 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday
- Fire Station #3, 3606 Midway Dr.
 - Bring your own container
- Fire Station #4, 411 Waters Dairy Rd.
 - Bring your own container
- Fire Station #5, 510 North Apache
 - Bring your own container
- Fire Station #6, 3620 Range Rd.
 - Bring your own container
- Fire Station #7, 8420 West Adams
 - Bring your own container
- Fire Station #8, 7268 Airport Rd.
 - Bring your own container
- Grace Temple Ministries, 801 S. 13th Street -- 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday
- Mayborn Civic & Convention Center, 3303 N. 3rd St. -- 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday
- 1018 E Avenue A has been added as an additional water distribution site.

Much of the information listed in this document came from the FEMA website at <https://www.fema.gov>.