



U.S. Small Business Administration

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center Opens In Gallatin County, Illinois

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration announces today the opening of a Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Gallatin County. This Center is scheduled to open in the Shawneetown Regional Port District Office on Monday, September 22, and close on September 26 at the close of business. The location of the Center will make it convenient for disaster victims affected by the severe storms and flooding of March 17 through April 30, 2008 to apply for disaster loan assistance. The SBA encourages victims to visit the Outreach Center to apply for assistance.

“I encourage anyone who has not completed their disaster loan application to meet with the Customer Service Representative at the Center for one-on-one assistance,” said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA Field Operations Center East.

The location of the Disaster Loan Outreach Center is:

Gallatin County

Shawneetown Regional Port District Office
270 N. Lincoln Blvd. East
Shawneetown, IL 62984

Opens: Monday, Sept. 22 at 9 a.m.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closes: Friday, Sept. 26, Close of Business

Homeowners, renters and businesses in the following counties are eligible to apply: Alexander, Gallatin, Pulaski, Saline and Williamson counties and the adjacent counties of Franklin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Union and White in the State of Illinois; Posey County in Indiana; Ballard, McCracken and Union counties in the Commonwealth of Kentucky; Cape Girardeau, Mississippi and Scott counties in the State of Missouri.

“Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property,” Frank Skaggs added.

Businesses and non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, inventory, machinery and equipment. The SBA can also lend additional funds to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage in the future.

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For small businesses, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 2.750 percent for homeowners and renters, and 4.000 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based upon each applicant's financial condition.

Anyone unable to visit the Center may obtain an SBA Disaster Loan application or the SBA's program information by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (or 1-800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EDT or by emailing our customer service center at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Business loan applications may be downloaded from www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Applications may be returned to the Disaster Recovery Center or mailed to: U. S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, Texas, 76155.

Victims may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **November 3, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **June 2, 2009**.

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For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.