

NEWS



NEWS

Managing Director's Office of Emergency Management

Liam O'Keefe, Deputy Managing Director
Samantha Phillips, Assistant Managing Director

Contact: FEMA/PEMA News Desk
717-651-4530

September 24, 2011

For Immediate Release:

Disaster Assistance is for Renters in Philadelphia Too

Renters in Philadelphia with losses due to Hurricane Irene or Tropical Storm Lee are eligible for federal disaster assistance.

Renters who were displaced from their homes may be eligible for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant to help them pay rent for temporary housing. These rental grants are for a 30-day period, subject to assistance review, until renters' previous homes are again habitable or they find another home.

FEMA maintains a list of rentals in the affected counties, which may be obtained by calling FEMA's helpline at 1- **800-621-FEMA (3362)** or TTY **800-462-7585**. Renters can also contact the Pennsylvania Housing Resource Center at 1-877-428-8844 or on the web at www.PaHousingSearch.com.

FEMA also provides grants to renters for a variety of serious disaster-related losses, including:

- Replacement or repair of necessary personal property lost or damaged in the disaster, such as furnishings or appliances;
- Replacement or repair of tools and equipment required by students or the self-employed for their work;
- Replacement or repair of vehicles damaged by the disaster;
- Moving and storage expenses; and
- Disaster-related medical and dental expenses.

If renters have personal property losses not covered by insurance or FEMA grants, they may be eligible for low-interest disaster loans administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Following a disaster, SBA loans are not only for small businesses, but also for renters, homeowners, businesses of all sizes and private, nonprofit organizations. Renters may borrow up to \$40,000 to replace personal property.

###