



SCOTT WALKER

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Governor Walker Announces Disaster Assistance for Homeowners and Businesses in West Central Wisconsin

Madison – Governor Scott Walker announced the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) approved his request for federal low-interest disaster loans for individuals and businesses impacted by flash flooding that occurred last month in West Central Wisconsin. The SBA will open a Disaster Loan Outreach Center on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at the Buffalo County Courthouse in Alma. Individuals and businesses will be able to obtain information and loan applications.

“We are pleased the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will be able to assist homeowners and businesses that suffered damages because of the flooding in August,” said Governor Walker. “The low-interest loans will help them get back to normal as they try to recover from the storm damage.”

The SBA declared Buffalo County along with the contiguous counties of Eau Claire, Pepin and Trempealeau counties, as eligible for disaster assistance. In addition, Minnesota counties of Wabasha and Winona were also listed.

Assistance in the form of low interest loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed homes. Homeowners and renters are eligible up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property. Low-interest loans up to \$2 million are available to businesses for physical damage and economic loss from the flooding.

On August 11, severe storms brought eight inches of rain causing flash flooding, damaging homes, businesses and roads. Last week, Buffalo County Emergency Management, Wisconsin Emergency Management, and a representative from the SBA completed initial damage assessments and reported more than twenty five residences and businesses sustained significant damage and uninsured losses in excess of 40 percent.

A copy of a fact sheet is attached outlining the details of the disaster loans.

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