

Press Release

Reporting Damages to Primary Residences and Businesses in Kittitas County:

Due to the extensive damages caused by the flooding, City and County officials declared a state of emergency. Subsequent actions must take place to help justify a request for federal disaster assistance.

The affected public must report disaster damage to their local City/County emergency management agency, which in turn documents the information on specified forms and sends it to the state Emergency Management Division (EMD) for analysis. Local City or County officials will be collecting information for the “Initial Damage Assessment”.

OPTIONS TO SUBMIT FLOOD DAMAGE INFORMATION:

- 1. Go to the County Website and enter the information at <http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/>**
 - 2. Call in the information. For Ellensburg call the City at 962-7239. For the County call 962-7506 or 962-7525.**
 - 3. Schedule an on-site inspection. For Ellensburg call the City at 962-7239 for the County call 962-7506.**
 - 4. You can also stop by the Sheriff’s Office during business hours and complete the form.**
- It is very important that all damage be estimated and reported** in order to meet the threshold for receiving those disaster assistance funds if they become available. Estimates can be made by the homeowner, detailed estimates from a contractor are not required.
 - The forms must be filled out and returned to the County no later than Tuesday January 21, 2009 by 5PM**
 - The forms must be filled out completely by the property owner or by both the occupant and the property owner if it is leased/rented. If the property leased/rented, then the renter only estimates personal property damage on Form 1-PR and the landlord would estimate the structural property loss on Form 2-BU (the landlord could also fill out a Form 1-PR if personal property was damaged).**
 - Only damages to residences and business, including personal property inside can be counted. Garages or outbuildings cannot be included in the estimate.**

***Important! If you have damages caused by the recent flooding and mudslides you should also contact your insurance company to start their own processes. The assessment forms are not a substitute for property damage claims through your property insurer and you should contact your insurance company to report your personal and property losses immediately.**

If you have any questions contact the Kittitas County Sheriff’s Office at 962-7525 or check out the Washington Military Department’s website at <http://www.emd.wa.gov/>

Thank you,

Clayton Myers