



MEDIA RELEASE

Emergency Management Agency

Ohio Emergency Management Agency • Nancy J. Dragani, Executive Director
www.ema.ohio.gov



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STRICKLAND ANNOUNCES DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR SOUTHEAST OHIO TORNADOES

Residents may apply for Small Business Administration low interest loans

COLUMBUS, OH– Governor Ted Strickland today announced that the Small Business Administration (SBA) has granted his request to issue a disaster declaration for Athens County, as a result of the September 16 tornadoes. The SBA disaster declaration includes the contiguous counties of Hocking, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Vinton and Washington.

The governor declared a state of emergency for Athens, Meigs and Perry counties on Sept. and authorized \$1.6 million in a supplemental grant program for those residents in Athens, Meigs and Perry counties who have serious essential unmet needs or losses not addressed by insurance, SBA, or other state and voluntary agencies. Individual grants up to \$17,800 will be distributed by the Ohio Emergency Management Agency.

An SBA declaration enables individuals and businesses in Athens County, as well as those in the contiguous counties who incurred uninsured losses resulting from tornadoes and severe storms on Sept. 16, 2010, to apply for long-term, low-interest loans.

“Residents of Southeast Ohio have suffered extensive loss of property as the result of the tornadoes and storms earlier this month,” Strickland said. “these low-interest loans, combined with the \$1.6 million in supplemental assistance and TANF funds, will ensure that we are doing all we can to stand with these families as they recover from these storms.”

SBA representatives and Ohio EMA grant registrars will be available at loan outreach centers in Athens and Meigs counties. Locations and dates are as follows:

Athens County Job and Family Services, 70 North Plain Road, Plains, OH 45701. The center is open **Thursday, September 30** through **Thursday, October 7**:

| | | |
|--------|-----------|-----------------|
| Thurs. | Sept. 30: | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. |
| Fri. | Oct. 1: | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. |
| Sat. | Oct. 2: | 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. |
| Sun. | Oct. 3: | CLOSED |
| Mon. | Oct. 4: | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. |
| Tues. | Oct. 5: | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. |
| Wed. | Oct. 6: | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. |
| Thurs. | Oct. 7: | 8 .am. – 5 p.m. |

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Meigs County's **Reedsville Methodist Church**, 66158 State Route 124, Reedsville, OH 45772. The center is open ***Thursday, September 30*** through ***Saturday, October 2:***

| | | |
|--------|-----------|-----------------|
| Thurs. | Sept. 30: | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. |
| Fri. | Oct. 1: | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. |
| Sat. | Oct. 2: | 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. |

Individuals and businesses may also apply for an SBA loan by calling 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or by going online at www.sba.gov and clicking on the button labeled “Disaster Assistance.” SBA loan applications must be submitted by November 26, 2010.

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