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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State, federal info center on flooding opens in Denton

LITTLE ELM (July 17, 2015) Little Elm residents and businesses wishing to explore whether or not they are eligible for state or federal assistance for damages sustained in the recent flooding will have an opportunity to speak directly to state and federal officials, says Travis Calendine, Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator.

“A Disaster Recovery Center, known as a DRC, will open on Monday, July 20 at the Denton County Emergency Operations Center, and will remain open until Saturday, July 25,” he said. “Officials from the state, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Small Business Administration will be joined by personnel from non-governmental organizations and local community resources to assist.”

The DRC will be located at 9060 Teasley Lane in Denton, opening at noon on Monday, July 20 and closing at 6 p.m. Then, it will open from Tuesday, July 21 to Saturday, July 25 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. “Officials will be able to answer questions in English and Spanish,” added Calendine.

The DRC serves affected residents from Denton County who need one-on-one help. Homeowners, renters and business owners who sustained damage as a result of the severe storms, tornadoes and flooding from May 4 to June 19, may be eligible for some type of assistance.

People who had storm damage can register for FEMA assistance online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or call **800-621-3362** toll free from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily until further notice. “Visiting the DRC is not a requirement for affected persons who want disaster assistance, but the center is where people can get answers to questions about disaster aid and some help applying for it,” he said.

Some of the services may include: guidance regarding disaster recovery; clarification of any written correspondence received; housing assistance and rental resources information; answers to questions, resolutions to problems and referrals to agencies that may provide further assistance; and status of applications being processed by FEMA.

Assistance for eligible residents can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, and for other serious disaster-related needs, such as medical and dental expenses or funeral and burial costs. Low-interest disaster loans from SBA may be available to cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other resources and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations.

Affected individuals should register with FEMA even if they have insurance. While FEMA cannot duplicate insurance payments, under-insured applicants may receive help after their insurance claims have been settled. FEMA’s National Flood Insurance Program has a call center to answer Texas policyholders’ flood insurance questions. To speak with a flood insurance specialist, call **800-621-3362** between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

For more information on Texas recovery, visit www.fema.gov/disaster/4223 and the Texas Division of Emergency Management website, <https://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem>.

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ABOUT LITTLE ELM – Little Elm is one of the state’s fastest growing communities. Nestled on the shores of Lake Lewisville, the Town was incorporated in 1966, adopting the Council/Manager form of government. The population increased dramatically over the last several years, growing from under 4,000 in 2000 to over 30,000 today. Little Elm’s population exceeds the state average in education and income, and is increasingly trending younger and technologically proficient. The Town’s footprint is just over 21 square miles and boasts some 66 linear miles of shoreline within its boundaries.