



## *NEWS RELEASE*

### **MAINE DISTRICT OFFICE**

---

**Release Date:** 4/26/07

**Release Number:** ME-07- 19

**Internet Address:** [www.sba.gov/me](http://www.sba.gov/me)

**Contact: Bonnie Erickson**  
**622-8275**

[bonnie.erickson@sba.gov](mailto:bonnie.erickson@sba.gov)

### **BUSINESSES AND HOMEOWNERS AFFECTED BY THE PATRIOT'S DAY STORM MUST REPORT DAMAGE**

Augusta, ME -- Charles E. Summers, New England Regional Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) advises, "All businesses, homeowners, renters and nonprofits who suffered damage to property due to the Patriot's Day Storm to report their damage and loss to their town or county emergency management office." (information listed below)

"Reporting damages to the local emergency agencies is the necessary first step for business owners, homeowners, renters and non profits to access SBA disaster funds. SBA's disaster loans are a critical source of economic stimulation in disaster-ravaged communities, helping to spur the local economy and stabilize the tax base," said Summers.

Businesses should report both physical and economic damage. For example, a business should estimate, not only the damage to its building, machinery and equipment; but also the loss of income incurred during the storm and the subsequent recovery period. It is not necessary to obtain an estimate from one's insurance company as the SBA will accept an estimate prepared by the affected party.

"Maine people are independent and resilient. Most feel they can take care of themselves and weather the storm and help neighbors. By reporting losses to the county emergency management agency, you will be getting your business up and running, getting your home back in shape and helping your neighbors," emphasized Summers.

Once the disaster is declared, businesses, homeowners, renters and nonprofits are eligible to apply for long-term low interest loans provided by the agency. The SBA, the nation's bank in times of disaster, provides long-term low interest loans to individuals to repair or replace their disaster-damaged real estate or personal property. The agency also

**-more-**

underwrites loans to businesses of any size, as well as nonprofit organizations for repair or replacement to disaster-damaged property. Businesses are also eligible for loans to cover expenses incurred during the time the businesses were unable to operate and lost revenues due to the storm.

In addition to reporting losses to their town or county emergency management office, businesses should call their insurance company, contact their lender, take pictures, and keep receipts of all expenditures.

Businesses should also contact the Maine Small Business Development Center (SBDC) counselors. Maine SBDC counselors are experts in helping businesses through difficult times. To contact the Maine SBDC visit [www.mainesbdc.org](http://www.mainesbdc.org) or call 207-780-4420.

Until the data is collected and the disaster declared, businesses needing financial assistance resulting from the disaster should contact their lender and the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME). FAME has a short-term financing program designed to help businesses recover from the storm. Contact them at (207) 623-3263 or [www.famemaine.com](http://www.famemaine.com)

"For information on the SBA's programs including disaster or to speak to SBA personnel please call 207-622-8274 or [www.sba.gov/me](http://www.sba.gov/me). SBA personnel in Maine have expertise in the SBA disaster programs and will be able to help you get on the road to recovery," concluded Summers.

**Androscoggin County**  
**Emergency Management Agency**  
**207-784-0147**

**Aroostook County**  
**Emergency Mgmt. Agency**  
**207-493-4328**

**Cumberland County**  
**Emergency Management Agency**  
**877-372-7363 (toll free)**

**Franklin County**  
**Emergency Mgmt. Agency**  
**207-778-5892**

**City of Portland**  
**207-874-8407**

**Hancock County**  
**Emergency Management Agency**  
**207-667-8126**

**Kennebec County**  
**Emergency Mgmt. Agency**  
**207-623-8407**

**Knox County**  
**Emergency Management Agency**  
**207-594-5155**

**Lincoln County**  
**Emergency Mgmt. Agency**  
**207-882-7559**

**-more-**

**Oxford County**

**Penobscot County**

**Emergency Management Agency  
207-743-6336**

**Piscataquis County  
Emergency Management Agency  
207-564-8660**

**Somerset County  
Emergency Management Agency  
207-474-6788**

**Washington County  
Emergency Management Agency  
207-255-3931**

**Emergency Mgmt. Agency  
207-945-4750**

**Sagadahoc County  
Emergency Mgmt. Agency  
207-443-8210**

**Waldo County  
Emergency Mgmt. Agency  
207-338-3870**

**York County  
Emergency Mgmt. Agency  
207-324-1578**