



TXGDEM



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Fort Worth District**



*Joint Field Office
Austin, Texas*

FEMA

September 17, 2008
FEMA-DR-1791-TX NR-016
Contact: Judy Marsicano
News Desk: 512-465-3706
USACE PIO: 817-886-1312

News Release

Corps of Engineers Issues Blue Roof Contact Numbers

AUSTIN, Texas – Hurricane Ike has left many Texas homeowners with damaged roofs. Repairs to these roofs can take time. In order to mitigate additional damage that could result from rain, homeowners can have plastic sheeting installed over the damaged area by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contractors, in a program provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The toll-free BLUE ROOF hotline number is **1-888-ROOF-BLU** or **1-888-766-3258**.

In anticipation of a temporary roofing mission, the Corps has established two mobile Right of Entry collection sites. Anyone needing a temporary roof can go to the City of Webster Civic Center, 101 Pennsylvania St., or to the intersection of Red Bluff Road and Spencer Highway in Deer Park to fill out a right of entry form. Hours of operation will be daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Corps expects to set up at least eight more ROE collection sites within a week.

Here are some facts about Operation BLUE ROOF:

- To qualify for BLUE ROOF services, damage to the roof must be less than 50 percent and the area to be covered must be structurally sound for a crew to work on.
- In order to have plastic sheeting placed on their roofs, homeowners must complete a right-of-entry form to allow government and contract employees on their property. Right of Entry (ROE) centers for affected counties are staffed by Corps of Engineers employees. For the center location in your county, call toll free 1-888-766-3258.
- The Corps is covering roofs in the hardest hit counties first. Be patient. The Corps will respond to every person who has completed a ROE as quickly as possible.
- In some instances, there may be a slowdown in installing plastic sheeting because of a national shortage.
- Homeowners may also cover their roofs with free tarps provided by FEMA and issued through their local governments. Residents need to monitor the media for information on where to pick up the tarps.
- The plastic covering and the tarps are temporary fixes designed to provide protection from the elements until the homeowner can make permanent repairs with a qualified professional.

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The BLUE ROOF program is provided by FEMA through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in all counties that have been declared by FEMA for the Individual Assistance program. The need for Blue Roof services is undetermined because the survey is not complete.

More information is available online at www.fema.gov or www.swf.usace.army.mil.

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FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was established in 1950. The District is responsible for water resources development in two-thirds of Texas, and military design and construction in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District web site at: www.swf.usace.army.mil.