

# SUNSET SANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

January 24, 2008

To the members of Sunset Sands Community Association

SUBJECT: Disaster Assistance

Dear Member:

As you may or may not know, on December 29, 2007, Pacific and Wahkiakum counties were declared a disaster area as a result of the December 3, 2007, storm. At the January 19, 2008, meeting of the Board of Directors of Sunset Sands Community Association, Jackie Sheldon and Craig Smith from the FEMA/Willapa Behavioral Services *Disaster Outreach Services* team spoke to the group and provided valuable information to those attending.

This letter is sent to you in an effort to keep you informed regarding the disaster effort currently going on in the County. The following is a summary of the information given by Ms. Sheldon and Mr. Smith:

- **The deadline for applying for FEMA assistance is February 7, 2008.** No help will be offered and you will not receive help unless you apply. Even if you didn't think you had anything happen at the time of the storm, apply to FEMA! This provides FEMA with the documentation it needs to bring in more money to the counties for assistance.
- **Other Needs Assessment:** If, *after* you have applied to FEMA and have been denied assistance, call "Other Needs Assessment" (ONA). Their purpose is to assist you in finding a service other than FEMA that may be able to aid you.
- **Property Tax Assessment:** If your property has sustained damage, keep in mind that it is no longer worth what your latest tax assessment indicated. Contact the Pacific County tax assessor to request a reassessment of your property.
- **Federal Taxes:** As far as federal taxes, members were encouraged to speak with their personal tax preparers as the financial loss, such as damages and deductibles, may be deducted from your 2007 tax filing.
- **Health & Medical:** If you required a generator for health reasons such as a sleep machine/sleep disorders or other health equipment, you need to apply.

P.O. Box 44  
Ocean Park, WA 98640  
Phone: 360-665-5432  
[www.sunsetsands.org](http://www.sunsetsands.org)

- **Septic/Drain Fields:** Watch for problems with septic tanks and drain fields. If you had trees go down on or around either one, you may need repair or replacement of one or both.
- **PUD Billing:** If your power bills were extraordinarily high after the storm, call FISH at 360-642-4987 to determine if you are eligible for assistance with that bill.
- **Counseling:** Willapa Behavioral offers counseling services for those people who have anxiety and stress-related issues as a result of the storm. The counseling is offered as a free service to residents of Pacific and Wahkiakum counties.
- **Free Tetanus Shots:** If you are working in a hazardous area, you may want to protect yourself with a current tetanus shot. The Pacific County Health Department is offering free tetanus shots.

In summary, FEMA is primarily for persons who are underinsured or not insured. **However, whether you qualify for FEMA or not, you have to apply to FEMA to be able to tap into the other programs.** Although the Small Business Administration is offering low-interest loans for assistance with storm clean up, **you have to apply to FEMA first to be eligible. FEMA assistance is a case-by-case basis – but you need to apply.**

Enclosed is the Disaster Outreach Services referral list for your use. If you have any questions regarding these services, deadlines or requirements, call either Jackie Sheldon or Craig Smith at 1-800-850-8775. This and other information can also be accessed on the Association web page at [www.sunsetsands.org](http://www.sunsetsands.org).

*Remember, the deadline for a FEMA filing is February 7, 2008.*

Sincerely,

Board of Directors  
Sunset Sands Community Association

BA/bec

Enclosure: Referral List

**Deadline to  
Apply For  
FEMA  
Feb. 7, 2008**

**DISASTER OUTREACH SERVICES  
PACIFIC & WAHIAKUM COUNTIES  
1-800-850-8775 OPTION 5**

**(REFERRAL LIST)**

Aging Services	Medicaid & COPES-360-642-6238 Senior Services 360-642-3634	DSHS Senior Info and Assistance
Agricultural Aid <b>Deadline Feb 15, 2008</b>	FSA Disaster Assistance (USDA) 360-748-0084 Option 2	For Loss of Livestock (not) horses
American Red Cross (ARC)	<a href="http://www.redcross.org/index.html">www.redcross.org/index.html</a> 1-866-438-4636 or 360-642-5766	Disaster Information Preparing Communities
Assessor (Tax)	<a href="http://www.pacificcountywashington.gov">www.pacificcountywashington.gov</a>	Pacific County Tax Assessor
Consumer Services Attorney General	<a href="http://www.atg.wa.gov/">www.atg.wa.gov/</a>	To File a Complaint
Contractors	Wash. Dept of Labor and Industries 1-800-647-0982	Trades License & Contractors
<b>Disaster Outreach Services</b>	<b>1-800-850-8775 Option 5</b>	<b>Disaster Crisis Counseling Pacific &amp; Wahkiakum Counties</b>
Disaster Recovery Washington	<a href="http://www.access.wa.gov">www.access.wa.gov</a>	Information for storm victims Washington State
<b>FEMA Deadline Feb. 7, 2008</b>	1-800-621-3362 1-800-4627585 TTY	<a href="http://www.fema.gov/news/event/1734">www.fema.gov/news/event/1734</a> Report to FEMA
Food Stamps	1-877-980-9180	Washington DSHS Community Services
Fraud	1-800-323-8603 Office of the Inspector General	FEMA Fraud Hotline
Health	<a href="http://www.doh.wa.gov/">www.doh.wa.gov/</a>	WA Dept. of Health & Human Services
HUD	<a href="http://www.hud.gov/local/index.cfm">www.hud.gov/local/index.cfm</a>	US Dept. Housing and Urban Development.
Insurance Information Complaints	<a href="https://fortress.wa.gov/oic/complaints">https://fortress.wa.gov/oic/complaints</a> 1-800-562-6900- or 360-725-7080	WA State office of the Insurance Commissioner
Legal Services	<a href="http://www.washingtonlawhelp.org">www.washingtonlawhelp.org</a> 1-866-519-7099	Free Legal Services
Social Security	1-800-772-1213	
Tax Assistance	<a href="http://dor.wa.gov/content/tontractus/">http://dor.wa.gov/content/tontractus/</a> <a href="http://www.irs.gov">www.irs.gov</a> 1-800-829-1040 1-800-829-4059 TTY	Washington Dept of Revenue
Unemployment	<a href="http://www.go2worksource.com">www.go2worksource.com</a> 360-875-9470 (Raymond)	Unemployment Help
USDA Disaster Loans & Grants	1-360-704-7753 SW Washington USDA Rural Development	Home Repair, loans, and grants
Veterans Affairs	1-800-827-1000 1-800-829-4833 TTY	Dept. of Veterans Affairs

**CONTACT FOR OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE (ONA) 1-800-688-3469**