

MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

NEWS



CONTACT: AMY BISSELL, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
MEMA Newsline

(601) 352-9100
1-800-441-6362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUBJECT: A SAFE PLACE TO GO IN YOUR HOME AND COMMUNITY

(Jackson) – As a result of the devastating tornadoes that affected the state on Feb. 16th and 24th, 2001, a presidential disaster declaration was issued. Under the declaration, hazard mitigation grant program funds are available to the state for the implementation of long term, cost effective measures that will significantly reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property from natural disasters.

Bernice Mcginnis, local civil defense director invites everyone to come and tour the mobile safe place in the home that will be on display at the Sunflower parking lot on march 12th at 10:00 a.m. Come and see how this safe place can be constructed in your home on a 75% /25% federal cost share.

What does that mean? It means through the hazard mitigation grant program the federal share may not exceed 75% of an eligible project cost. A non-federal share (25%) may be provided by the sub grantee, by project participants or any other non-federal share source.

The intent of this program is to provide a place of safety for residents to go in their homes or in the community during times of severe weather and by providing funding for the installation of residential and community safe rooms and storm shelters within the declared counties.

The strategy has been developed to help save lives and Mississippi Emergency Management Agency in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management agency and the Yazoo County Civil Defense/Emergency Management Agency will administer the program. MEMA will act as the grantee and the county emergency management agency will act as the sub grantees.

The state of Mississippi safe room initiative will be available to any eligible applicant who lives in a declared county. However, due to limited funding the following prioritization is given to:

1. Any homeowner, government organization, or private non-profit organization located within a declared county that had documented damage.
2. Any homeowner, government organization, or private non-profit organization located with a declared county that was not damaged.

Come out to see the mobile "shelter from the storm".

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