

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino
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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
AT YOUR SERVICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Bernardino County tops the state in storm damage

Current estimates indicate San Bernardino County has experienced more significant property damage from winter storms occurring since December 18 than any other county in the state, with damage currently estimated at \$59,501,466.

Damage assessments are ongoing, but at this time, the County Emergency Operations Center reports five homes destroyed, 57 homes with major damage, one business with major damage, 317 homes, businesses and outbuildings with minor damage, and 28 other structures affected but not physically damaged by the floods. These estimated losses of private and businesses properties total \$16,939,500.

Of the five destroyed homes, three were in the City of Highland, one in the City of San Bernardino, and one in Forest Falls. The majority of the homes with major damage were in the City of Highland and the Town of Apple Valley. Cities sustaining the most damage in private property include the City of Highland, Town of Apple Valley and City of Hesperia.

Damage to public properties such as roads, bridges, drainage systems, government buildings, parks and recreation facilities, and utilities currently totals 998 sites, with an estimated loss of \$42,561,966.

The County and 13 cities/towns have proclaimed an emergency (City of Adelanto, Town of Apple Valley, City of Barstow, City of Fontana, City of Grand Terrace, City of Hesperia, City of Highland, City of Loma Linda, City of Redlands, City of San Bernardino, City of Victorville, City of Yucaipa, and Town of Yucca Valley).

The County is providing the state with required data to help in determining if federal financial assistance will be available for flood victims. At this time, however, homeowners and businesses cannot claim funds for property losses from the government.

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Property owners are encouraged to photograph and document any damage to their property and any repairs that are made in the event assistance becomes available. Property owners may report flood damage to their homes and businesses to the County Office of the Assessor toll-free at 1-877-885-7654, or visit the Assessor's website at www.sbcounty.gov/assessor.

Sand bags and sand can be obtained at local fire stations to use for protective measures around homes. For fire station locations and other winter safety tips, visit the County Fire Department website at www.sbcfire.org, or contact your city fire department. The San Bernardino County website also has winter storm information at www.sbcounty.gov. Individuals may contact the Inland Empire United Way's resource referral center for storm-related assistance by calling 2-1-1, or visiting the website at www.211sb.org.