Paul E Fischer County Judge Lee County



County Courthouse 200 South Main, Rm. 107 Giddings, TX 78942 Phone: 979-542-3178 Fax: 979-542-2988

Feb 24, 2021

Press Release

Individual Assistance

Lee County has at this time not met the disaster threshold required by FEMA for Individual Assistance for its residents. In an effort to reach this we are requesting all businesses, companies, schools, organizations and individuals that have experienced loss due to the winter storms complete a TDEM survey at https://tdem.texas.gov/warming-center/ or contact 844-844-3089 if you need assistance in filling out the form. Information gathered on the survey will help identify the impact the storm has had on the county and help us in an attempt to receive federal aid for those that need it.

Once you go to the website click on the tab labeled "Click Here for Texas Individual Assistance Reporting Tool (TIART)". The form is easy to fill out and is available in both Spanish or English. You are not required on the form to give any estimate on cost of repair. It does asks for contact information, location of building, and type of damage. If you have pictures they are requested on the form. Please be sure to click on the "Submit" button on the bottom of the form when you are finished.

We need any one who has experienced loss to fill out this form, even if you have insurance that will cover your damages. The more response that the State gets on the damages the better our chances on getting assistance.

Resources that are available at this time

USDA Farm Services: Open to farmers and ranchers with several different programs that might be able to assist. Some are open at this time and others may open up if we get Individual Assistance. Contact Levi Garlick at 979-968-5894 for more information.

Resources that will open up if/when we get Individual Assistance

FEMA Assistance (Federal Funds): If your property and/or belongings were damaged and you have uninsured damages, apply online at <u>www.DisasterAssistance.gov</u> or call 800-621-3362. If you have insurance file a claim with them first before applying for FEMA.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance: If you are or were unable to work because of this disaster, you may file for unemployment for the duration of the disaster with Texas Workforce Commission at <u>https://www.twc.texas.gov/.../unemployment-benefits-services</u> and click on "apply for benefits" or call 800-939-6631.

Small Business Administration: Low-interest loans are provided to businesses, non-profits, homeowners, and renters who quality. Complete an application at https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/.

#