

Washington, DC—Today, Congressman John Olver announced that a federal disaster declaration has been issued for Berkshire and Franklin counties following Tropical Storm Irene during the period of August 27-29, 2011.

"President Obama's federal disaster declaration triggers the release of federal funds that can be utilized to assist families and communities in their efforts to clean up and rebuild in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene. This funding is critical for homeowners who continue to deal with the impacts of flooding and for communities struggling to rebuild critical infrastructure. I'd like to thank the President for his prompt response to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' request," said Congressman John Olver.

[Additional information on FEMA's declaration and available federal assistance is available here.](#)

Disaster Recovery Centers Currently Open in Berkshire and Franklin Counties

Williamstown: □ Developers Finance Corporation Building, 430 Main Street

Pittsfield: □ Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield's Public Library, 1 Wendell Avenue

Greenfield: □ Green River Elementary School, 62 Meridian Street

Buckland/Shelburne Falls: □ Mohawk Trail Regional High School, 26 Ashfield Road, Shelburne Falls

The centers will operate from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday, until further notice. □ You are encouraged to **register with FEMA before going to the recovery center.** You may register by calling 800-621-FEMA (3362) or 800-462-7585(TTY) for people with a hearing

or speech impairment. You may also register online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov

9/7/11 UPDATE:

[IRS PRESS RELEASE: Tax Relief for Victims of Tropical Storm Irene in Massachusetts](#)

Victims of Tropical Storm Irene that began on Aug. 27, 2011, in Massachusetts may qualify for tax relief from the Internal Revenue Service. [Read more here.](#)

[SBA PRESS RELEASE: Tropical Storm Irene Survivors in Massachusetts can Apply for SBA Assistance](#)

U.S. Small Business Administration Administrator Karen G. Mills issued the following statement after the announcement of the Presidential disaster declaration for several counties in Massachusetts that were affected by Tropical Storm Irene that occurred from Aug. 27 - 29, 2011. [Read more here.](#)

[HUD PRESS RELEASE: HUD Secretary Announces Disaster Assistance for Commonwealth of Massachusetts Storm Victims](#)

U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan today announced HUD will speed federal disaster assistance to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and provide support to homeowners and low-income renters forced from their homes following Tropical Storm Irene. [Read more here.](#)

###