



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY**



March 26, 2010

As you are aware, the March 2010 storm significantly impacted towns, particularly in DEMHS Regions 1 and 2. DEMHS has formally requested FEMA to come to Connecticut to participate in a joint FEMA/STATE Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA). FEMA will be sending two Individual Assistance PDA Teams, and four Public Assistance PDA Teams. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will also be participating on the Individual Assistance PDA Teams to assess damages to residences and businesses that have sustained major damages. The SBA has a low interest loan program which may become available.

The goal is to verify that Connecticut has met the federal thresholds of at least \$4,393,178.85 in damages statewide and at least \$2,850,691.41 in damages in Fairfield County – so that Governor Rell can request a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration. If a Presidential Declaration is issued, the State and certain counties will be eligible for "Public Assistance" (PA), which is supplemental federal assistance provided to state, local and certain private non profit organizations for uninsured expenses as a result of a major disaster. Counties may also be eligible for "Individual Assistance" (IA), which provides financial assistance to eligible individuals and households who, as a direct result of a major disaster, have uninsured losses.

DEMHS anticipates that the FEMA teams will be meeting at the State Emergency Operations Center in Hartford at 7:30 am on Monday March 29, 2010, and will proceed to DEMHS Region 1 at about 8:30 am, starting their first visit, depending on traffic, at approximately 10:30 am. We anticipate that on Tuesday, March 30th, the teams will start early in the coastal towns.

The following towns may be visited by the teams: Bridgeport, Westport, Greenwich, New Canaan, Fairfield, Stamford, Norwalk, Darien, Stratford, and Wilton.

In order to provide the most accurate possible assessment, appropriate state and town officials will accompany the teams on their surveys.