

COUNTY of BLAIR

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

911 CENTER & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES:

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COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

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Flood Event Press Release July 10, 2018

On Monday, July 2, 2018, flash flooding caused damage to approximately 100 homes and businesses in the County of Blair, in the areas of Duncansville Borough, Allegheny Township, and Blair Township. All three municipalities, and the County, declared disaster declarations, to be included in any widespread flooding event, if one was to occur. Due to this being a localized event, the County of Blair does not meet the criteria for any federal funding. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has not met the impact threshold for federal funding to be possible.

The Blair County Emergency Management Agency has been working with the Local Emergency Management Coordinators and Elected Officials in the municipalities that were affected, to gather information from those who were impacted by the flash flooding to see if there are other options available to the residents whose homes or businesses sustained damage in the flash flooding.

Residents and businesses of the Duncansville Borough, Allegheny Township, and Blair township that were affected by the July 2, 2018 flash flooding are invited to attend a workshop being conducted jointly by the County and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) Central Area Office to report any damages related to the flash flooding "If enough damages are reported, the victims of this flash

flooding could possibly qualify for low-interest loans from the Small Business Administration (SBA) to assist in restoring property and homes to a livable condition," stated County Coordinator, Mark Taylor, Director of Public Safety.

Blair County officials are asking anyone affected by the July 2, 2018 flash flooding to go to Duncansville Community Center, 315 14th Street, Duncansville, between 10AM and 6PM, on Monday, July 16 to meet with officials as part of the County's effort to qualify for an SBA Disaster Declaration. In order for the Commonwealth to request an SBA Disaster Declaration, a minimum of 25 homeowners, renters, and/or businesses with little or no insurance to cover the damages is needed to qualify. "No one is obligated to take a loan," stated Mark Taylor, "however, we need to capture all uninsured losses so that those who want to apply for a loan will be able to."

Those who can't attend the workshop are asked to call County EMA 814-940-5905 to provide the information.

Additionally, the County and affected Municipalities will have various community groups available to provide support for the victims of the flash flooding. This support will not be financial, but will provide contact with groups providing in kind services.