



# PRESS RELEASE

Date: July 17, 2023  
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## **FEMA ASSISTANCE DEADLINE APPROACHING**

The deadline for initiating individual assistance claims related to winter storms in February and March is Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. The County encourages individuals who have storm-related losses during the incident period Feb. 17., 2023- July 10, 2023 to begin claims immediately.

Previously filed, ongoing claims are not affected by the deadline.

Through Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, a Disaster Recovery Center is available in the basement of the County Governmental Center, 701 Ocean St., Santa Cruz, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Through Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, a Disaster Recovery Center is also available at Pajaro Middle School, 250 Salinas Rd., Pajaro, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Additionally, residents may file claims online at <https://www.DisasterAssistance.gov>, by calling 800-621-FEMA (3362), or through the FEMA app.

On April 3, 2023, President Biden approved a Major Disaster Declaration for winter storms that devastated Santa Cruz County, causing widespread flooding and storm damages. Additional resources are available at the Virtual Recovery Center at <https://santacruzcounty.us/OR3/Emergency.aspx>.