

Disaster funds to help flooded homeowners

Written by Greg Viergutz
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Dawson County homeowners who experienced flood damages in June will be able to tap into \$240,000 in assistance funds.

A total of \$840,000 in emergency disaster money from the Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund will be distributed by several regional organizations, according to Gov. Dave Heineman.

Dawson County homeowners should contact Ginger Featheringill at the West Central Nebraska Development District, 308-284-6077 or at gfeatheringill@west-central-nebraska.com.

Administered by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, the funding allows groups to provide grants up to \$7,500 each for home repairs. Grants will be awarded to applicants on a first come, first approved basis.

To qualify, a homeowner must have experienced flood damage as a result of storms occurring in June; had an active homeowners' insurance policy on the date the storm impacted the residence; and been earning a maximum income at or below 100% of the area median income for the state of \$62,600.

Funds cannot be used to reimburse rehabilitation work completed prior to approval.

"Flood damage can take an economic and emotional toll in communities, especially where family residences are concerned," Gov. Heineman said. "We want to help homeowners secure and repair one of their most important assets. This funding will help bridge the gap as homeowners move forward with clean up and repairs."