



NEWS RELEASE

Bruce Gordon, Director of Communications

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 17, 2012

CONTACT: Julie Anderson

651-216-0837

GOVERNOR MARK DAYTON SECURES SBA DECLARATION

ST. PAUL — Governor Mark Dayton has secured a Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster declaration for Carlton, Pine and St. Louis counties and the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa following severe storms and flash flooding in June. The declaration makes available low-interest loans to homeowners, businesses, renters and not-for-profit organizations.

The loans apply to those in the declared area as well as the surrounding counties of: Aitkin, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Koochiching and Lake. Residents affected by this same storm system in the Wisconsin counties of Burnett and Douglas may also apply.

Governor Mark Dayton requested a SBA disaster declaration after FEMA denied Minnesota's appeal for individual assistance.

SBA loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property. Businesses and not-for-profit organizations may apply to borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, equipment, inventory and other business assets.

Disaster Loan Outreach Centers will be set up in several communities in the Northland. They will be staffed by SBA, local and state agencies including experts from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency which, if funded by the legislature, will be able to provide its Quick Start program. That program provides assistance as a last resort when private insurance and federal assistance are not enough to return a damaged home to its pre-disaster condition. Quick start loans are forgivable no-interest loans as long as certain conditions are met. Residents seeking a Quick Start loan must first apply for a SBA loan.

The Disaster Loan Outreach Centers will be open 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. The locations will be:

- St. Louis County

Tuesday, Aug. 21 - Wednesday, Aug. 29 (closed Sunday)

Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center (DECC)

350 Harbor Drive

Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Alcohol
and Gambling
Enforcement

Bureau of
Criminal
Apprehension

Driver
and Vehicle
Services

Emergency
Communication
Networks

Homeland
Security and
Emergency
Management

Minnesota
State Patrol

Office of
Communications

Office of
Justice Programs

Office of
Traffic Safety

State Fire
Marshal and
Pipeline Safety

- Carlton County

Tuesday, Aug. 21 - Friday, Aug. 24 and Monday Aug. 27 - Wednesday, August 29

Barnum Community Center
3753 Front Street
Barnum, Minnesota 55707

Saturday, Aug. 25

Barnum High School
3675 County Road 140
Barnum, Minnesota 55707

- Pine County

Tuesday, Aug. 21 - Thursday, Aug. 23

Rutledge Community Center
7369 County Highway 61
Rutledge, Minnesota 55795

The Department of Public Safety Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) will coordinate the Disaster Loan Centers along with the SBA. “These centers will provide residents and business owners with the information they need to apply for a SBA loan and understand why that application is a key part of the disaster recovery process”, says HSEM Director Kris Eide. If an applicant is turned down for a SBA loan they then become eligible for state assistance programs and private donation money.

Residents who cannot visit a Disaster Loan Recover Center may contact SBA’s Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center by calling (800) 659-2955, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visiting SBA’s Web site at www.sba.gov. Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call (800) 877-8339. Applicants may also apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA’s secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>

###