## **Recovery Fact Sheet 004**

## **Key Messages**

- Residents of the Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester counties who had damage or losses as a direct result of Hurricane Ida are encouraged to apply for FEMA assistance as soon as possible. The deadline to apply is Monday, Dec. 6.
- If you have a mold problem caused by Hurricane Ida, call your insurance company to file a claim. Mold can pose serious health risks and should be removed as soon as possible. If you live in one of the nine counties listed above and have not already applied for FEMA assistance, file an application. You may be eligible for a one-time \$300 Cleaning and Sanitizing grant to help with Ida cleanup costs. Find tips about mold remediation from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at Homeowner's and Renter's Guide to Mold Cleanup After Disasters | CDC.
- If you disagree with a FEMA decision about your eligibility for disaster assistance, remember that you have the right to appeal. Be sure to provide documentation of the damage that affected your essential living space or made your home uninhabitable. That includes repair estimates, contractor bids and photos. For more information and advice on the appeals process, see <a href="https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20211014/tips-appealing-decision-fema">https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20211014/tips-appealing-decision-fema</a>.

## **Individual Assistance**

- Once disaster survivors apply for assistance, FEMA is required to verify the reported losses to determine the applicant's eligibility for assistance. Each application is treated individually. If a FEMA inspection is required, the inspector will contact the survivor within 14 days. Please make sure that the contact information on your application is correct and return the inspector's call promptly to expedite your claim. Remember that the inspector may contact you via call, text, or email and that the call may come from an unfamiliar area code. If you do not hear from the inspector within 14 days, call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 or visit the nearest <u>Disaster Recovery Center</u> to check on the status of your application.
- Renters who live in the nine counties designated for federal assistance after Hurricane Ida can apply for FEMA assistance for necessary expenses and disaster-related serious needs not covered by insurance. Renters may be considered for help to replace personal property such as furniture, appliances, school supplies, vehicle repairs, medical and dental bills related to the disaster. For more information, call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362, visit the nearest Disaster Recovery Center at <a href="mailto:fema.gov/DRC">fema.gov/DRC</a> or visit <a href="mailto:DisasterAssistance.gov">DisasterAssistance.gov</a>.

