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Subject: DR-4241-SC NR021 Mitigation Outreach Columbia Sumter Lexington.docx
Attachments: DR-4241-SC NR021 Mitigation Outreach Columbia Sumter Lexington.docx

The attached News Release **DR-4241-SC NR021: FEMA Mitigation Advisers Offer Guidance to Flood Survivors in Columbia, Lexington and Sumter Counties** will be released to the SC media immediately.

Oct. 29, 2015
FEMA-4241-DR NR 021
SCEMD: 803-737-8500
FEMA News Desk: 803-714-5894

News Release

FEMA Mitigation Advisers Offer Guidance to Flood Survivors in Columbia, Lexington and Sumter Counties

COLUMBIA, S.C. – As South Carolinians rebuild and repair after the recent historic floods, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and local home improvement stores have teamed up to provide free information, tips and literature on making homes stronger and safer.

FEMA mitigation specialists will be on hand in Lexington, Richland and Sumter counties to answer questions and offer home improvement tips to prevent and lessen damage from future disasters. Most of the information is geared towards do-it-yourself work and general contractors.

Also on hand will be FEMA's disaster survivor assistance teams to answer questions and provide guidance on available federal help.

Advisers will be available at three locations today through Nov. 3. Hours and locations are as follows:

Lexington County: Home Depot located at 5600 Sunset Blvd. in Lexington (Thursday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Monday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Richland County: Home Depot located at 7701 Two Notch Road in Columbia (Thursday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Monday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Sumter County: Lowe's located at 1251 Broad St. in Sumter (Thursday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Monday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Mitigation teams will also have free reference booklets in English and Spanish on protecting your home from flood damage. More information about strengthening property can be found at fema.gov/what-mitigation.

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FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex

(including sexual harassment), religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status, or retaliation. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, call 800-621-3362 or 800-462-7585(TTY/TDD).

FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.