

FNS Responses to Spring 2011 Severe Storms, Tornadoes and Flooding

FNS provided over \$150 million in Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) benefits to help more than 1.1 million individuals in 471,581 households in 11 States and 220 counties in response to the devastating spring 2011 storms, tornadoes and floods.

Specific FNS disaster food assistance responses by State include:

Alabama

FNS has provided over \$124 million in D-SNAP benefits to help 930,981 individuals and 386,532 households in 43 Alabama counties affected by recent disasters.

- *The State provided current SNAP/Food Assistance Program recipients in the 42 disaster-designated counties with their June SNAP benefits, early, if they regularly received their benefits after the 10th day of the month.*

The State received FNS approval:

- *To issue an automatic, mass replacement of 50% of April 2011, SNAP benefits for SNAP households who resided in the following 30 counties as of April 27, 2011, and who received their benefits on or prior to that same date: Bibb, Blount, Calhoun, Cherokee, Choctaw, Colbert, Cullman, DeKalb, Etowah, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Hale, Jackson, Jefferson, Lamar, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan, Perry, Pickens, St. Clair, Sumter, Tuscaloosa, Walker and Winston*
- *To operate a D-SNAP/Disaster-Food Assistance Program in 43 counties on a staggered basis. D-SNAP operated in:*
- *Escambia County from June 27-28, with the option to operate up to seven days*
- *To issue supplemental benefits to eligible SNAP households who resided in Escambia County at the time of the April 15, 2011, disaster and who submit an affidavit attesting to their disaster-related expenses*
- *Autauga County from May 26-28*
- *Blount County from May 27-28*
- *Monroe County from May 26-27*
- *Bibb, Chilton, Choctaw, Clarke, Colbert, Coosa, Fayette, Greene, Lamar, Perry, and Shelby Counties from May 24-25*
- *Chambers, Marengo, Pickens, Sumter, Washington Counties from May 26-27*
- *Lauderdale and Limestone Counties from May 26-28*
- *Talladega County from May 25-27*
- *Cherokee, Elmore, Hale, Jackson, Tallapoosa and Winston Counties from May 18-20*
- *Marion County from May 19-21*
- *Calhoun, Etowah, Morgan and Saint Claire Counties from May 18-21*
- *Madison County from May 17-22*
- *Cullman, Jefferson and Tuscaloosa Counties beginning May 10, followed by DeKalb, Franklin, Lawrence, Marshall and Walker Counties beginning May 11*
- *To issue automatic, supplemental benefits to eligible SNAP/Food Assistance Program households in the 42 disaster counties*
- *To allow hot foods purchases with SNAP benefits through May 31 at authorized SNAP retailers in the 42 disaster counties*
- *To release May SNAP/Food Assistance benefits, early, on May 1 for 439,300 recipients residing in 27 counties*
- *To allow Birmingham City Schools without power to receive full reimbursement for meals served without milk*

Status of USDA Foods:

- *School USDA Foods have been utilized at some Huntsville area congregate feeding sites*

Alabama Food Assistance via EBT Card Information:

<http://www.dhr.state.al.us/>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14232>

Arkansas

FNS has provided over \$1.3 million in D-SNAP benefits to help 9,815 individuals and 4,090 households in 39 Arkansas counties affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- *To operate a Disaster-Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP)/Disaster-Food Stamp Program (D-FSP) in:*
- Franklin and Johnson Counties for 7 business days beginning on July 19 and continuing through July 27, 2011. Applications will not be accepted at county offices on the weekend, but applications will be accepted on the weekend if the mobile Disaster Recovery Center is open.
- Carroll, Chicot, Clark, Crawford, Dallas, Desha, and Hot Spring Counties, which were impacted by severe storms, tornadoes, and associated flooding that occurred April 23 - June 3, 2011. D-SNAP applications will be accepted from July 7 – 15.
- Arkansas, Lee, Poinsett and St. Francis Counties from June 8 -16.
- Cross, Greene, Independence, Jackson, Lawrence, Lonoke, Mississippi, Monroe, Prairie and Woodruff Counties from June 1-9.
- Boone, Crittenden, Jefferson, Madison, Montgomery, Phillips, Washington and White Counties from May 18 -26
- Benton, Clay, Faulkner, Garland, Lincoln, Pulaski, Randolph and Saline Counties from May 10–18.
- *To issue supplemental benefits to eligible SNAP/FSP households who resided in the impacted counties at the time of the disasters and who submit an affidavit attesting to their disaster-related expenses*

Status of USDA Foods:

- *USDA Foods (4,880 pounds valued at \$2,189) were provided to Pocahontas Community Center for congregate feeding*
- *On May 6, USDA Foods were provided to 3 shelters in Hazen, DeValls Bluff and Des Arc.*

Arkansas Food Stamp Program via EBT Card Information:

<http://www.arkansas.gov/dhs/sgFamily.html>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=15012>

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14312>

Georgia

FNS has provided over \$5.3 million in D-SNAP benefits to help 56,073 individuals and 21,907 households in 25 Georgia counties affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- *The State provided early issuance of SNAP/Food Stamp benefits on May 3 to all SNAP/Food Stamp recipients in disaster counties that had been approved for Individual Assistance at that time.*
- *To operate a D-SNAP in:*
- *(9) counties, including Catoosa, Walker, Dade, Gordon, Polk, Morgan, Rabun, Bartow, and Floyd from May 12-19 (excluding Sunday). Residents of Catoosa, Walker, Dade, Polk, Morgan, Rabun, and Floyd counties and zip codes 30746 and 30733 in Gordon County and zip codes 30145, 30171, 30123, and 30103 in Bartow County may qualify for D-SNAP benefits based on food loss alone as a qualifying disaster-related expense.*
- *To issue automatic, supplemental benefits to all ongoing SNAP households that resided in the above areas on April 27, 2011*
- *To operate a D-SNAP in:*
- *(16) counties, including Cherokee, White, Habersham, Newton, Greene, Heard, Coweta, Meriwether, Troup, Harris, Spalding, Lamar, Monroe, Upson, Pickens, and Lumpkin from May 17-19*
- *To issue supplemental benefits to ongoing SNAP households that lived or worked in the above 25 disaster counties if they were not eligible for automatic supplements as noted above and by the household completing an affidavit attesting to its disaster-related expenses*
- *To issue mass SNAP replacement benefits equal to 25% of the April 2011 allotment to SNAP recipients who resided in the following (9) counties as of April 27, 2011, and who received their April SNAP benefits on or prior to that date: Bartow, Catoosa, Dade, Floyd, Gordon, Morgan, Polk, Rabun and Walker. SNAP replacement benefits were automatically added to these recipients' EBT cards on May 9, 2011.*
- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with April 2011 SNAP benefits through May 19th in the following 16 Counties: Cherokee, Coweta, Greene, Habersham, Harris, Heard, Lamar, Lumpkin, Meriwether, Monroe, Newton, Pickens, Spalding, Troup, Upson and White*

Status of USDA Foods:

- *School USDA Foods have been utilized at some North Georgia and Chattanooga area congregate feeding sites and shelters*

Georgia Food Stamps via Georgia Peach Card Information:

<http://dfcs.dhs.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHS/menuitem.3d43c0fad7b3111b50c8798dd03036a0/?vgnextoid=25b448a778bbf210VgnVCM100000bf01010aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=5f8178d118f9d210VgnVCM100000bf01010aRCRD&vgnnextrefr>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14253>

Illinois

FNS has provided over \$970,000 in D-SNAP benefits to help 7,786 individuals and 3,318 households in 15 Illinois counties affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- *To operate a D-SNAP in Wabash County beginning no earlier than June 30, 2011, with the discretion to operate up to 7 business days.*
- *To operate a D-SNAP in the following 14 counties:*
- *Alexander, Franklin, Gallatin, Hardin, Jackson, Lawrence, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Randolph, Saline, White, and Williamson from June 24-28, 2011, with the discretion to operate up to 7 days*
- *To provide D-SNAP supplements for ongoing SNAP households in the above 15 counties up to the maximum allotment for household size for households that complete an affidavit attesting to their disaster-related expenses. Ongoing SNAP recipients in Massac County may submit their affidavits through an online system in lieu of completing a paper form at the local office.*
- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with SNAP benefits and to request replacement benefits through May 20 in Alexander County due to flooding*

Illinois SNAP/Food Assistance via Link Card Information:

<http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29721>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14672>

Iowa

The State received FNS approval:

- *To waive specific Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) regulatory requirements for SFSP sponsors and sites that must be relocated due to flooding to ensure program access.*
- *For Iowa Women, Infants and Children (WIC) participants impacted by the flooding to transact WIC food instruments at Nebraska WIC-authorized vendors.*

Iowa SNAP/Food Assistance via EBT Card Information:

http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/consumers/assistance_programs/foodassistance/

Kentucky

The State received FNS approval:

- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with April 2011 SNAP benefits through May 26 in the following (24) counties: Ballard, Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Carlisle, Carroll, Carter, Crittenden, Daviess, Fleming, Fulton, Gallatin, Henderson, Hickman, Kenton, Lawrence, Livingston, McCracken, Morgan, Nicholas, Oldham, Owen, Union, and Washington*

Kentucky SNAP via EBT Card Information:

<http://www.chfs.ky.gov/dcbs/dfs/foodstampsebt.htm>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14332>

Massachusetts

FNS has provided over \$3.1 million in D-SNAP benefits to help 26,764 individuals and 10,632 households in 2 Massachusetts counties affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- *To operate D-SNAP in the following 12 communities:*
- *Within Hampden (Agawam, Brimfield, Chicopee, Monson, Palmer, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield and Wilbraham) and Worcester (Charlton, Southbridge and Sturbridge) from June 18, 2011, and continuing for 7 days, including Saturday and Sunday.*
- *To provide automatic mass supplements for ongoing SNAP households in Brimfield, Monson, and Wilbraham and supplements via affidavit attesting to loss of income or disaster related expenses for SNAP households in Agawam, Charlton, Chicopee, Palmer, Southbridge, Springfield, Sturbridge, West Springfield, and Westfield.*
- *To allow hot food purchases with SNAP benefits through June 30, 2011, at authorized SNAP retailers in Hampden and Worcester Counties*
- *To extend the time SNAP recipients in the cities/towns of Agawam, Auburn, Brimfield, Brookfield, Charlton, Chicopee, Douglas, Monson, Northampton, Oxford, Palmer, Southbridge, Springfield, Sturbridge, West Springfield, Westfield and Wilbraham have to report loss of food purchased with May 2011 SNAP benefits, request replacement benefits and submit signed affidavits of loss to the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance through June 22, 2011, due to a series of tornadoes that occurred on June 1, 2011.*
- *To issue, on June 1, 2011, automatic, mass replacements of May SNAP 2011 benefits at the 20% level for households whose benefits were issued between May 1-7 and at the 40% level for households whose benefits were issued between May 8-14, or a minimum of \$16 for SNAP households who resided in Brimfield, Brookfield, Monson, and Wilbraham as of June 1, 2011.*

Massachusetts SNAP via EBT Card Information:

<http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=eohhs2subtopic&L=5&L0=Home&L1=Consumer&L2=Basic+Needs&L3=Food+%26+Nutrition&L4=SNAP+Benefits&sid=Eeohhs2>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14733>

Michigan

The State received FNS approval:

- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with May 2011 SNAP/Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits through June 20, 2011, for recipients in Calhoun County. SNAP recipients in Calhoun County have until June 20, 2011, to report their loss of food purchased with May 2011 SNAP benefits, submit signed affidavits of loss, and request replacement benefits.*

Michigan Food Assistance Program via EBT Card Information:

http://www.michigan.gov/dhs/0,1607,7-124-5453_5527---,00.html

Minnesota

The State received FNS approval:

- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with May 2011 SNAP benefits through June 11, 2011, in Hennepin County*

Minnesota Food Support Program via EBT Card Information:

http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=id_002555

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14432>

Mississippi

FNS has provided over \$3.4 million in D-SNAP benefits to help 22,224 individuals and 8,215 households in 40 Mississippi counties affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with May 2011 SNAP benefits through June 18th in 14 counties, including Adams, Bolivar, Claiborne, Coahoma, DeSoto, Humphreys, Issaquena, Jefferson, Sharkey, Tunica, Warren, Washington, Wilkinson, and Yazoo.*
- *To operate a Disaster-SNAP (D-SNAP) in:*
- *(14) counties, including: Adams, Bolivar, Claiborne, Coahoma, DeSoto, Humphreys, Issaquena, Jefferson, Sharkey, Tunica, Warren, Washington, Wilkinson, and Yazoo from June 14-21 due to flooding that began on May 3, 2011. D-SNAP applications will not be taken on Sunday.*
- *(18) counties, including: Alcorn, Attala, Clay, Coahoma, DeSoto, Grenada, Holmes, Leflore, Marshall, Montgomery, Newton, Panola, Quitman, Smith, Sunflower, Tishomingo, Tunica, and Winston from May 18-20*
- *(8) counties, including Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clarke, Jasper, Lafayette, Monroe, Neshoba and Webster from May 11-13*
- *(3) counties, including: Greene, Hinds and Kemper from May 4-6*
- *To issue supplemental benefits to SNAP households that received replacement SNAP benefits in the 40 disaster counties listed above or to SNAP households that lived in these counties but did not request SNAP replacement benefits and who file affidavits attesting to their disaster-related expenses*
- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with SNAP benefits through May 5 in (3) counties: Green, Hinds and Kemper due to the April 15 storm*
- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with SNAP benefits through May 18 in (8) counties: Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clarke, Jasper, Lafayette, Monroe, Neshoba and Webster due to the April 28 storm*

Mississippi D-SNAP via MDHS EBT Card Information:

http://www.mdhs.state.ms.us/pdfs/PR_DSNAPO_TornadoWeek1.pdf

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14452>

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14252>

Missouri

FNS has provided over \$521,000 in D-SNAP benefits to help 4,603 individuals and 1,936 households in 2 Missouri counties affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- *To operate a Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP)/Disaster-Food Stamp Program (FSP) in four zip codes (64801, 64802, 64803, 64804) within Jasper and Newton Counties from May 31-June 9, 2011, including on Saturday and Sunday.*
- *To provide D-SNAP supplements for ongoing SNAP households up to the maximum allotment for household size to provide equity in benefits between new and ongoing households. Ongoing SNAP households must complete an affidavit attesting to disaster-related expenses to receive a supplement.*
- *To allow hot foods to be purchased with SNAP benefits through June 21, 2011, from authorized SNAP retailers in four zip codes (64801, 64802, 64803, 64804) within Jasper and Newton Counties and in any additional counties that receive a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance.*
- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with SNAP/Food Stamp Program (FSP) benefits through June 22, 2011, in Jasper and Newton Counties. SNAP recipients in these two counties have until June 22, 2011, to report their loss of food purchased with May SNAP benefits, submit signed affidavits of loss, and request replacement benefits.*
- *To waive specific Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) regulatory requirements for SFSP sponsors and sites participating in and around the tornado devastated area of Joplin to ensure program access.*
- *For temporary waivers/exceptions to certain program requirements in the Child and Adult Food Program that relate to record keeping, meal patterns and monitoring in order to ensure program access.*
- *For Missouri Women, Infants and Children (WIC) participants impacted by the tornadoes in Joplin to transact Missouri WIC food instruments at Oklahoma WIC authorized vendors.*
- *To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with SNAP/Food Stamp Program (FSP) benefits through May 27 in 26 counties and the City of St. Louis*

Status of USDA Foods:

- *On May 4, USDA Foods were released from the Poplar Bluff School District and the Southeast Missouri Food Bank to the Rescue Mission, the agency that prepared meals for the ARC shelter in Poplar Bluff, to assist with congregate feeding due to the flooding.*
- *The Southeast Missouri Food Bank also delivered USDA Foods to a church in Sikeston for two days of congregate feeding.*

Missouri FSP via EBT Card Information:

<http://www.dss.mo.gov/fsd/fstamp/>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14395>

Nebraska

The State received FNS approval:

- To waive specific Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) regulatory requirements for SFSP sponsors and sites that must be relocated due to flooding to ensure program access.
- For Nebraska Women, Infants and Children (WIC) participants impacted by the flooding to transact WIC food instruments at Iowa WIC-authorized vendors.

North Carolina

FNS has provided over \$7 million in D-SNAP benefits to help 58,463 individuals and 22,726 households in 18 North Carolina counties affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- To operate a D-SNAP in 18 counties from April 29–May 3
- To issue supplemental benefits to SNAP/Food & Nutrition Services recipients in 18 counties through May 6
- To allow hot food purchases with SNAP benefits through May 31 at authorized SNAP retailers in counties that received a Presidential disaster declaration with Individual Assistance
- To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with SNAP benefits through May 6 for SNAP recipients in 18 counties

North Carolina Food & Nutrition Services via US flag EBT Card Information:

<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/pressrel/2011/2011-04-29-tornadoes.htm>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14092>

North Dakota

FNS has provided over \$530,000 in D-SNAP benefits to help 3,436 individuals and 1,377 households in 1 North Dakota county affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- To operate a D-SNAP in Ward County beginning July 5, 2011, and continuing through July 22, 2011, except on weekends.
- To issue automatic supplements to SNAP households in Ward County that lived in the mandatory evacuation zone. Ongoing SNAP households not receiving automatic supplements may request a supplemental issuance up to the maximum for household size by completing an affidavit attesting to their disaster-related expenses.
- To issue mass SNAP replacement benefits equal to 70% of the June 2011 allotment to SNAP recipients who resided in Ward County as of June 20, 2011. SNAP replacement benefits will automatically be added to these recipients' EBT cards.
- To allow hot food purchases with SNAP benefits through July 31 at authorized SNAP retailers in Ward County
- To move two Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) site locations in south Bismark to area schools in north Bismark due to flooding. The north Bismark sites plan to begin operating the SFSP on June 6, 2011.
- To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with SNAP benefits and submitting signed affidavits of loss to local North Dakota Department of Human Services offices through May 27 for SNAP recipients who reside on the Fort Berthold Reservation and in Adams, Billings, Bowman, Burke, Divide, Dunn, Golden Valley, Hettinger, McKenzie, Mercer, Mountrail, Renville, Slope, Stark, Ward, and Williams Counties.

North Dakota Flood Recovery and SNAP Information:

<http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14433>

Oklahoma

FNS has provided over \$53,481 in D-SNAP benefits to help 398 individuals and 125 households in 8 Oklahoma counties affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- *To operate a D-SNAP in the following 7 counties:*
- *Caddo, Canadian, Delaware, Grady, Kingfisher, Logan and McClain from June 24-30, excluding the weekend and July 4th holiday. The State has the discretion to operate the D-SNAP up to seven business days.*
- *To provide D-SNAP supplements for ongoing SNAP households in the above seven counties up to the maximum allotment for household size. Ongoing SNAP households must complete an affidavit attesting to disaster-related expenses to receive a supplement.*
- *For Missouri Women, Infants and Children (WIC) participants impacted by the tornadoes in Joplin to transact Missouri WIC food instruments at Oklahoma WIC authorized vendors.*
- *To operate a D-SNAP in (1) county, Atoka, from May 12–20*

Status of USDA Foods:

- *On May 25, 2011, FNS approved the use of school USDA Food commodities for Red Cross and Salvation Army congregate feeding sites in Delaware County.*

Oklahoma SNAP via Access Oklahoma EBT Card Information:

<http://www.okdhs.org/divisionsoffices/isd/oprs/docs/disasterform.htm>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14652>

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14132>

South Dakota**Status of USDA Foods:**

- *USDA Foods were used by St. Joseph Catholic School to prepare and serve meals to disaster survivors at the George Morris Middle School.*

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14472>

Tennessee

FNS has provided over \$4.1 million in D-SNAP benefits to help 28,404 individuals and 10,723 households in 26 Tennessee counties affected by recent disasters.

The State received FNS approval:

- *To operate a D-SNAP/Disaster-Food Stamp Program (D-FSP) in the following counties:*
- *(11) Carroll, Crockett, Gibson, Hardin, Henry, Knox, Lauderdale, Lincoln, Madison, Montgomery and Tipton from June 13-17. Knox County will continue D-SNAP operations from June 20-21.*

- (5) Dyer, Lake, Obion, Shelby and Stewart from May 23-June 1
- To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with May SNAP benefits through June 1 for SNAP recipients residing in the above 5 counties
- To operate a D-SNAP/D-FSP for up to 7 days, beginning on May 9, 2011, in the following (4) counties: Bradley, Greene, Hamilton and Washington
- To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with April 2011 SNAP benefits through May 16 in the above 4 counties
- To operate a D-SNAP/D-FSP from May 13-20, 2011 in the following (6) counties: Bledsoe, Cocke, Johnson, McMinn, Monroe and Rhea
- To extend the time for reporting loss of food purchased with April 2011 SNAP benefits through May 20 in the above 6 counties
- To issue supplemental benefits to SNAP recipients in the above disaster counties who present an affidavit to their local State office attesting to their disaster-related expenses
- To begin the Summer Food Service Program, early, in Memphis City schools, if needed, due to flooding

Tennessee SNAP/FSP via EBT Card Information:

<http://www.tn.gov/foodstamps>

FEMA declared disaster counties:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14394>

<http://www.fema.gov/news/eventcounties.fema?id=14272>

*If you think you may be eligible for disaster food assistance in your State, please contact your local State agency for application requirements, date and site information:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/outreach/map.htm>.

*Items noted in red indicate operating or planned State Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (D-SNAPs).