



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION  
November 26, 2003

**Contact:** Heather Shorack (619) 685-2288

## **DEADLINE FOR EMERGENCY FOOD STAMPS APPLICATION IS NOV. 29** *Two Days Left for Firestorm Victims to Take Advantage of This Assistance Program*

The extension period for San Diego County residents affected by the October wildfires to apply for disaster food stamps will expire Nov. 29, 2003. The United States Department of Food and Agriculture (USDA) made food stamps available on an emergency basis to many San Diego residents who lost their homes, businesses or income as a result of the fires.

Residents who are not usually eligible for food stamps may qualify temporarily if their home or belongings were damaged or destroyed and they have disaster related expenses or if they have lost income, food, or money as a result of the fires. Eligibility is based on available income less disaster related expenses. For a family of four, a full monthly allotment is \$471.

County residents who are already receiving food stamps may also be eligible for emergency food stamps, if they live or work in the affected fire.

County residents in the identified disaster areas can apply for disaster food stamps at San Diego County Family Resource Centers as well as the four Local Assistance Centers (LACs) in Alpine, Julian, Ramona, and Valley Center. LACs are open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and are closed on Sundays and on Thanksgiving day.

Those applying for help should bring a driver's license or other picture ID, as well as social security numbers for everyone in the household. For complete instructions and eligibility guidelines, please call Public Assistance Information at (866) 262-9881.

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***Local Assistance Center (LAC) locations:***

**Alpine** – Alpine Creek Shopping Center  
1347 Tavern Road, Suite 30

**Julian** – Parking lot of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church  
4<sup>th</sup> and B Street

**Ramona** – 325 Sixth Street (site of the former post office)

**Valley Center** – Valley Center Road Maintenance Station  
28565 Cole Grade Road

**LAC hours for all locations:**

Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

***Closed Thanksgiving Day and Sundays***

\*A list of Family Resource Centers can be found in the “Facilities” section of the Health and Human Services Agency Web site at: [www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hhsa](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/hhsa).

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