

Housing resources for property owners with tornado damage

City of Minneapolis
Community Planning and
Economic Development

To repair tornado damage to your home or business, first contact your insurance company, file a claim and call a contractor. If your insurance doesn't cover the cost of repairs, apply for a Small Business Administration Loan.

1. Private insurance: What if my insurance doesn't cover the cost of repairing tornado damage to my home or property?

You can negotiate with your insurance company about your claim. Homeowners and property owners affected by the tornado with questions about insurance claims, repair contracts, other real estate matters, or other legal issues can call **Volunteer Lawyers Network at (612) 752-6677**. Owners should identify themselves as affected by the tornado.

<http://volunteerlawyersnetwork.org/clients/aboutus>

2. Small Business Administration (SBA) loans: Why should I apply for an SBA loan?

You must complete the SBA loan application to be eligible for many other forms of assistance. Although the application deadline has passed, **the SBA will still accept applications electronically or by mail until Sept. 20**. SBA loans (at approximately 2.5% interest for homeowners and renters and 4% for businesses) have credit and income qualifications. The amount the SBA will lend depends on the cost of repairing or replacing the home and/or personal property, minus any insurance settlements or grants. **To apply, email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov or call the SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 (800-877-8339 for people with speech or hearing disabilities), Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Loan applications are available for download from www.sba.gov. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

3. Other resources: What if my insurance coverage isn't enough to make repairs and I am not eligible for an SBA Loan?

When private insurance and SBA loans do not meet tornado repair needs, other resources may be available. An SBA denial is required to access most other disaster funds. The Minnesota Housing Quick Start Disaster Recovery Program will provide assistance as a last resort to return a damaged home to its pre-disaster condition. Property owners who need additional financial assistance for home repair can contact these organizations to learn about loans and grants:

Center for Energy & Environment, (612) 335-5884, www.mncee.org

Housing Resource Center – North, (612) 588-3033, www.gmhchousing.org

Neighborhood Housing Services, (612) 521-3581, www.northsidenhs.org

If your property did not receive substantial damage but you still need help, you may be eligible for assistance from volunteers through these organizations:

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, (612) 788-8169, www.tchabitat.org

Rebuilding Together, (651) 776-4273, www.rebuildingtogether-twincities.org

For recovery services and support, call the Northside Tornado Recovery Hotline at (612) 787-3730