



NEWS RELEASE

Department of Public Safety

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Delmont Cleanup Continues; More Items Requested

PIERRE, S.D. - Cleanup work continues in Delmont, one week after a May 10 tornado did extensive damage to the community.

Despite a rainy weekend, citizens and volunteers kept clearing away the debris. As of Sunday, more than 700 trips had been made to the Douglas County rubble site.

Volunteers are still needed. People can register to help at the Volunteer Reception Center, which is open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. each day. The center is located at the baseball field at the south end of Delmont. Volunteers are asked to come into Delmont from Highway 18. Lutheran Social Services is the lead agency for the center.

The Donations Management Center also remains open 8 a.m.-6 p.m. each day at the Delmont American Legion Hall. The center is managed by Adventist Community Services.

Since the center opened on Wednesday, May 13, an estimated \$20,480 worth of items has been received and an estimated \$8,000 worth of items have been distributed. Among the items still needed are: paper plates, plastic forks, Styrofoam cups, can openers, pots and pans, brooms, mops, coffee pots, food storage containers and food storage bags.

Officials say no more clothing items are needed. Donated items can be taken to the Donations Management Center, located in the Delmont American Legion Hall. Please enter Delmont from the east, using 284th Street.

Organizations willing to provide a meal or provide food for a meal can contact Lori Peters at 605-779-5121.

Today (Tuesday), staff members from FEMA and the Small Business Administration (SBA) will join state teams for a preliminary damage assessment of impacts to homes and businesses in two South Dakota counties resulting from the tornado. Gov. Dennis Daugaard last week requested preliminary assessments of damage to private homes and businesses in Charles Mix and Douglas Counties, including the town of Delmont. The process, called an Individual Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessment, is the first step to determine if FEMA's Individual Assistance program or the SBA's disaster loan program will be made available to help residents with recovery.

The assessment is expected to take a day.