

News from

***Representative Rush Holt***

**12<sup>th</sup> District, New Jersey**

**<http://www.holt.house.gov>**



---

## Q&A on Disaster Relief

*Questions posed by constituents at Rep. Holt's Town Hall Meeting on Sept. 23, 2004, and answers provided by federal, state, and local officials.*

**Question 1: When is the President scheduled to declare whether the areas of New Jersey that have suffered from Hurricane Ivan qualify as "natural disaster areas"?**

Answer: This decision should be made by Monday, September 27, 2004. If your area is declared a "natural disaster area," the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will begin making assessments of damaged property.

**Question 2: What should be done when insurance companies are not responding to phone calls?**

Answer: If insurance companies are not responding to your phone calls, you should contact the New Jersey State Department of Banking and Insurance at (800) 446-7467

**Question 3: How can I purchase a new water heater if I am unable to pay the full price at this time?**

Answer: It is impossible to know whether your purchase will be reimbursed until the President decides whether to designate portions of New Jersey as "natural disaster areas." However, to get a water heater immediately, contact PSE&G to set up a payment plan. The number for PSE&G is (800) 436-7734. Other numbers that may also be useful are:

Jersey Central Power and Light: (800) 662-3115  
Elizabethtown Water Company: (800) 272-1325  
Elizabethtown Gas Company: (800) 492-4009

**Question 4: What should be done if food, shelter, and/or clothing are needed immediately?**

Answer: Contact the American Red Cross of Central New Jersey and someone will be assigned to assist you. The phone number is 1-866-GET-INFO.

**Question 5: Should I make repairs to my home or business now, or should I wait for the President's decision?**

Answer: You should not wait for the President's decision to begin making repairs. However, take photographs and document in detail what repairs are being made.

###