

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Initial damage assessment begins**

Richland, Wash: Local homeowners, renters and businesses impacted by the recent flooding on the Yakima River should report those damages to Benton County Emergency Services (BCES). That can be done by going to the BCES website and completing an on-line assessment form that can sent electronically back to the agency.

This information is being collected to justify a request for federal disaster assistance for the county. Reporting the damages will not guarantee that homeowners or businesses will receive any compensation for their uninsured losses. Homeowners, renters and businesses should advise their insurance agents of any property damage.

There are also disaster assistance programs for farmers and ranchers. That information is available on the Washington Department of Agriculture's website -- <http://agr.wa.gov/>

Additional information and resources are available on the Benton County Emergency Services website at [www.bces.wa.gov](http://www.bces.wa.gov).

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