



Michael F. Easley, Governor

James T. Fain III, Secretary

## North Carolina Department of Commerce

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### **Hurricane Recovery Program Comes to Eastern North Carolina Business Owners** *State Officials to Hold Information Sessions in Dare, Hyde Counties*

**RALEIGH** – State officials will be traveling to Dare and Hyde counties in coming weeks to talk about assistance available through the Hurricane Recovery Act of 2005 to business owners who suffered losses during last fall's hurricanes.

The Hurricane Recovery Act, the first bill passed by the General Assembly this year and signed into law by Gov. Easley, appropriates \$10 million for business recovery assistance in 46 counties, including Dare and Hyde. Business owners who sustained losses from the storms are invited to learn about direct state loans and support available to assist borrowers at informational meetings being conducted by the Business Recovery Assistance Program, a joint venture of the North Carolina Department of Commerce and the University of North Carolina's Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC).

- Hyde County meetings will take place on Thursday, March 31, at 10 a.m. at the Hyde/Davis Business Enterprise Center in Engelhard and on April 5 at 7 p.m. at the Ocracoke Community Center in conjunction with the *Get Acquainted in Ocracoke* program.
- A meeting in Dare County is planned for Tuesday, April 5 at 10 a.m. at the Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce Board Room in Kill Devil Hills..
- In addition, assistance can be obtained at the SBTDC office at Elizabeth City State University Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information about the Business Recovery Program, the location of assistance centers or the informational meetings, visit [www.sbtdc.org/disaster](http://www.sbtdc.org/disaster) or call the SBTDC at 1-800-258-0862.

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