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## **FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ALABAMA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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### **Grants approved for six safe room projects in DeKalb County**

CLANTON—The Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) has informed officials in DeKalb County that grant funds have been approved for six Community Safe Room projects in the county. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved the grants under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The total budget for the projects is \$519,157.00.

“DeKalb County has experienced 11 confirmed tornadoes over the last two years,” said Governor Bentley. “It is important that residents of small communities have a secure place to shelter during severe weather.”

The safe rooms will be located in Henager, Sylvania, Shiloh, Powell, Fyffe and Geraldine. Each shelter will protect 96 people and has a generator to provide back-up power.

"Safe rooms are an important tool to ensure that residents of a community can get out of harm's way as quickly as possible when needed," said AEMA Director Art Faulkner.

Mike Leath, DeKalb County EMA Director commented, "It has been our pleasure to work with the County Commission and elected officials of these municipalities to obtain the financial commitment required to make application for these grants. In light of the severe weather events of 2009-2010 alone, we are delighted that community shelters will soon be available to the citizens of DeKalb County."

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program provides grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration.

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**For more information contact the AEMA Public Information Office  
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Visit us online at [www.ema.alabama.gov](http://www.ema.alabama.gov).**