

## Green Bucket Run

By Karen McEwen

Tighten up your shoelaces because "The Green Bucket Run" is coming soon! "The Green Bucket Run", formerly known as the "Kirk in the Hills 5K Run/Walk", returns for its fourth year on November 6, 2021. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit Accent Pontiac. This event originally began in 2018 when the Kirk in the Hills Church launched a November Service Challenge. Parishioners were challenged to complete 2,000 total hours of volunteer community service in the month of November. The 5K event served as the launch for November community service hours. The event offered many volunteer opportunities and provided a fun way for Kirk in the Hills parishioners as well as community members to be active outdoors and help support the beneficiary of the event, Accent Pontiac. Tina Rowan, Executive Director of Accent Pontiac, shares, "Accent Pontiac is best known for our 'bucket band', a percussion ensemble with Accent Pontiac student musicians performing on 5-gallon buckets. Since Accent Pontiac's launch in 2016, we've used green buckets for bucket band - hence, the Green Bucket Run!" Accent Pontiac is a non-profit organization that brings social change through music programming in Pontiac, Michigan. This organization is dedicated to ensuring that all students in Pontiac have access to high-quality music education. Accent Pontiac is a partner of the Pontiac School District and offers during and after-school music classes for over 250 Pontiac students. These classes include instruction on percussion, brass, and woodwind instruments. Tina adds, "all Accent Pontiac programming, including instruments, instruction, program supplies, and special events, are free for student participants. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Accent Pontiac stayed connected with our students through virtual programming, outdoor music classes, and porch lessons outdoor, socially-distanced music lessons at our students' homes."



### RACE INFORMATION:

Date: Saturday, November 6th, 2021

There are two options for the race this year in an effort to follow COVID-19 guidelines and to accommodate participants' personal comfort level.

1. The In-Person Run. The in-person run takes place outdoors on the Kirk in the Hills 5K course (1340 West Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Township, MI 48302) Saturday, November 6th at 9:00am. Participants will begin lining up around 8:50am. Packet pick-up is available from 7:45am - 8:45am the day of the race or on Thursday or Friday prior to the race.
2. The Virtual Run. The virtual run option allows you to participate in our Green Bucket Run, and support Accent Pontiac, at the time and location of your choice (neighborhood sidewalks, running tracks, trails, etc.). Both opportunities give you the option to support Accent Pontiac and have fun while doing so!

To register or learn more about this event, please visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/BloomfieldHills/KirkGreenBucketRun>

### COURSE DETAILS:

The Green Bucket Run is a 3.1 mile, USA Track & Field (USATF) certified 5K course beginning at Kirk in the Hills. The course follows along Kirkway Road and continues around Island Lake. USATF Certification Code: MI19027MN

### COURSE ROUTE



This event is a road course. Police assistance will be available at the crossing of Kirkway Road onto West Long Lake Road and at the traffic lights to assist runners crossing the street. There will be volunteers along the course and a vehicle available to pick up anyone that cannot finish the race.

To learn more about Accent Pontiac, please visit their website [www.accentpontiac.org](http://www.accentpontiac.org) and their social media pages [www.facebook.com/accentpontiac](https://www.facebook.com/accentpontiac) and [www.instagram.com/accentpontiac](https://www.instagram.com/accentpontiac).

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## FEMA offers Disaster Assistance in Southeastern Michigan from June storms

By Karen McEwen

Was your home or business damaged during the severe rain storms and flooding on June 25th-June 26th 2021? If you're a resident or business owner in Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw or Wayne county, you may be eligible for federal disaster assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Recently, FEMA released the following information regarding disaster assistance:

- You must first apply with FEMA. You can contact FEMA by calling the Helpline at 1-800-621-3362 or online at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov).

- Next, be sure to read your FEMA letter carefully. Applicants will receive a letter explaining FEMA's decision and actions that might be needed to process your application. For example, FEMA may require additional information such as proof of residence, an insurance settlement, proof of ownership of the damaged property, or proof that the damaged property was your primary residence at the time of the disaster.

- If you have questions about your application, you can call the FEMA Helpline at 1-800-621-3362. You can also visit one of the open disaster recovery centers in southeast Michigan to meet with a FEMA representative. Please visit [www.fema.gov/DRC](http://www.fema.gov/DRC) to find your nearest FEMA center.

- After applying for disaster assistance, you might be referred to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). There is no fee to apply for an SBA loan. There is no obligation to accept a loan, but you may miss out on the largest source of federal disaster recovery funds if you don't apply. Additionally, if you don't qualify for an SBA disaster loan, you may be referred back to FEMA for other types of grant

assistance. For more information on the SBA loan process, please visit [sba.gov/disaster](http://sba.gov/disaster), call the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2953 or send an email to [DisasterCustomerService@hhs.gov](mailto:DisasterCustomerService@hhs.gov).

For more information about Michigan's disaster recovery, visit FEMA's website at [www.fema.gov/disaster/4607](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4607).

- If you disagree with FEMA's assistance decision, you have the option to submit an appeal and have your case reconsidered. Your FEMA letter includes an explanation for documents to provide and steps to submit the appeal. You can also call the helpline or visit a FEMA center for help.



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