New Jersey residents and businesses affected by Hurricane Sandy can now access EBSCO Publishing's Home Improvement Reference Center ™, a resource providing detailed, user-friendly, "how-to" information about home improvements and repairs, thanks to a partnership with the New Jersey State Library.

This valuable online resource will be available for use in libraries, or remotely using a library card, thanks to a partnership with the New Jersey State Library. This tool will ensure that homeowners and businesses making their own repairs, or faced with clean up or do-it-yourself renovations, have the know-how to handle these tasks.

Building on a long standing partnership, EBSCO Publishing donated the repair and renovation tool to the New Jersey State Library, to support libraries statewide in assisting those in their communities affected by the hurricane. Library card holders can gain access through June 30, 2013 by visiting www.jerseyclicks.org, the State Library's portal for searching statewide databases, or by contacting their local public library.

Home Improvement Reference Center™ includes articles and reference content as well as videos and images designed to help home and business owners make repairs easily and safely. The database provides the latest step-by-step information along with background information and basic tips on topics including electrical, plumbing, woodworking, outdoor projects, maintenance and decorating.

"One of the most critical roles a library plays as an anchor institution is finding ways to help the people and organizations of its community address information needs and challenges – especially in times of stress," said Mary Chute, New Jersey State Librarian. "This database of do-it-yourself instructions, accompanied by videos and photographs, is a tremendous resource and can have an important impact on the people in our communities as they are faced with natural disaster. We heartily thank EBSCO Publishing for their generosity."

The New Jersey State Library, the New Jersey Library Association, and LibraryLinkNJ are coordinating hurricane relief efforts for the New Jersey library community. Links to these and other pertinent resources can be found on the State Library's website at: www.njstatelib.org