



SECURE & PREPARED

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Important Information

PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is National Preparedness Month! Look for more information in our next newsletter and throughout the month of September on www.beready.iowa.gov.

OFFICE CLOSURE

HSEMD offices will be closed on Monday, Sept. 5, for the Labor Day holiday. Iowa State Patrol Dispatch will be taking emergency calls that come in via the Division's main number **515.725.3231**.

Federal Assistance for Iowa Denied

Branstad to Appeal, Requests Additional Presidential Declaration

Governor Branstad was notified Aug. 3 by Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Craig Fugate that Iowa's request for activation of the Federal Individual Assistance Program for Fremont, Harrison, Monona, Pottawattamie and Woodbury counties was denied.

"Obviously I am disappointed for the citizens in the impacted counties that my request was denied," said Gov. Branstad. "However, I intend to appeal this issue with FEMA based on the simple facts that the flood is still occurring and as the waters slowly recede, new damages will be revealed which will have further impacts



Flooded section of Hwy. 2 in Fremont County.

to Iowans already fighting through this unprecedented flooding event."

The appeal of the decision by FEMA will be coordinated by the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management

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Next Generation 9-1-1 Service Comes to Iowa

Iowa is taking an important step toward improving the public's access to 9-1-1 through the use of leading-edge technology.

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD), which oversees the state's wireless Enhanced 911 (E-911) system, is in the initial stages of a

project that will upgrade Iowa's wireless E-911 system to support the use of a Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG-911) emergency services IP-based system. The upgrade will allow citizens to use texting, video and picture messaging to access emergency care via 9-1-1.

"While the existing E-911 system has been a success story for more than

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ISICSB Outreach Meetings

The Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) is hosting a series of workshops to expand its statewide outreach program by forming Regional Interoperability Committees (RICs) in each of the six statewide regions to:

- Improve two-way communication between the ISICSB and Iowa's public safety officials at a more local level;
- Cooperatively address local and statewide interoperable communication issues;

- Develop short and long-term interoperability and outreach goals.

The ISICSB is seeking public safety communications leaders in each of Iowa's six regions (from multiple local and regional disciplines) to attend this workshop and become Regional Interoperability Community (RIC) members. Disciplines include but are not limited to:

- City/county government
- E-911 Council and PSAPs
- Emergency management
- Emergency medical services
- Fire services
- Law enforcement



The workshops will be held on the following dates. Each workshop runs from 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Aug. 23 Atlantic Fire Dept.
1203 SW 7th St.
Atlantic

Aug. 25 Marshalltown Law Center
2369 Jessup Ave.
Marshalltown

Aug. 30 Charles City Library
106 Milwaukee Mall
Charles City

Sept. 8 Cherokee Fire Dept.
300 Elm St.
Cherokee

Sept. 13 Manchester Fire Dept.
East Main St.
Manchester

Sept. 15 Indian Hills CC
525 Grandview Ave.
Ottumwa

The cost of these workshops is FREE and travel expenses will be reimbursed according to State of Iowa regulations.

You must register by Aug. 16. To register, contact Iowa Statewide Interoperability Coordinator **Jim Bogner** at bogner@dps.state.ia.us or **515.725.6108**.

Governor's Conference Speakers Announced

Iowa HSEMD has announced who the keynote speakers will be at the 8th Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference, Nov. 1-2, 2011.

Disaster psychologist Dr. Grady Bray will return to the conference this year. Dr. Bray last spoke on mass fatality management and coping with stress for emergency responders in 2009. He started his own company in 1984 and today serves as the president of Crisis Human Services, Inc. Dr. Bray has an international reputation as a lecturer, author, disaster survivor and emergency response authority, and has appeared as a subject matter expert on the TODAY Show, The Discovery Channel, The Learning Channel and NBC Dateline.

Also speaking at this year's conference is Gary Bush. Bush is the director of materials theft prevention for the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. (ISRI). He has served as a patrol officer, property crimes and major crimes detective, and sergeant. As ISRI's national law enforcement liaison, he handles most of the day-to-day operations for the Scrap Theft Alert System in the U.S. and Canada, approving alerts issued by recyclers and other stakeholders, vetting new officers into the system, and providing guidance to those using the system.

More information about this year's conference and the agenda will be posted on the HSEMD website within the next week. Ω

Federal Assistance for Iowa Denied

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ment Division (HSEMD). HSEMD Administrator Derek Hill indicated that the Division will be working closely with the local emergency management agencies to determine additional damages and impacts caused by the ongoing flood.

“It is incredibly important to the citizens along the Missouri River that we are successful in this appeal,” said Hill. “The aid provided in the Individual Assistance program is a major piece of the puzzle that is needed to help Iowans recover from this flood.”

The FEMA Individual Assistance Program is made available to homeowners, renters and businesses and can include grants and low interest loans to help pay for temporary housing, home repairs and other disaster-related expenses not covered by insurance or other aid programs.

The State of Iowa normally has 30 days to appeal FEMA’s denial. However, since the flood water will likely recede slowly, the Governor will ask FEMA for an extension so it may include damages that surface beyond that 30-day time period.

Counties Added to Request

Gov. Branstad has added two more counties to an earlier request to President Obama to declare a Major Disaster for Public Assistance in four counties.

Governor Branstad has asked that Clay and Dickinson counties be

included in a request for a Major Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance for Benton, Marshall, Story and Tama counties. The Governor made the request in response to the severe weather and windstorms that occurred July 9-14. The windstorms caused widespread damage and resulted in large amounts of debris in the four counties.

A Presidential Major Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance puts into motion long-term federal recovery programs, some of which are matched by state programs, and designed to help



Above: National Guard helicopters haul sandbags in North Sioux City. Below: Sandbags placed outside a home in Woodbury County.

public entities and select non-profits. Public Assistance funds may be used for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities and may include debris removal, emergency protective measures, repair of damaged public property, loans needed by communities for essential government functions and grants for public schools.

New Request Made

Gov. Branstad also has asked President Obama to declare a Major Disaster for Public Assistance for two more Iowa counties. The two counties in the request are Dubuque and Jackson.

The Governor made the request in response to severe storms and torrential rains that impacted the area July 27–29.

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2011 Training Opportunities

Decision Making and Problem Solving (IS-241)

When: Sept. 15, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Where: Camp Dodge, Johnston

Being able to communicate effectively is a necessary and vital part of the job for every emergency manager, planner, and responder. This free course is designed to improve your communication skills. To register, visit Iowa HSEMD's training website: <http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training/>. If you have questions, contact **Susan Green** at susan.green@iowa.gov or 515.725.3243, or **Beth Lewis** at beth.lewis@iowa.gov or 515.725.3204.

Emergency Management Program Development

When: Oct. 4-5, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Where: Camp Dodge, Johnston

This free course is open to all county coordinators in Iowa. It is designed to give you some insight on what your role is in Iowa's emergency management system. Participants will meet numerous staff associated with grants, exercise, planning, training, and communications who will assist you with your duties. To register, go to: <http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training/>. If you have questions, contact **Susan Green** at susan.green@iowa.gov or 515.725.3243, or **Beth Lewis** at beth.lewis@iowa.gov or 515.725.3204.

Emergency Response: Strengthening Cooperative Efforts Among Public & Private Sector Entities (PER 280)

When: Oct. 7, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Where: Tama County Annex Bldg.
104 W. State Street
Toledo

The deadline to register is Sept. 23. Go to www.ruraltraining.org/training/delivery/7873. For more information please contact **Ryan Currens** at rcurrens@ema.tama-county.org or 641.484.6261.

Essential Records

When: Oct. 31, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Sheraton Hotel
1800 50th St.
West Des Moines

You will learn how to identify essential records, distinguish between nonessential and essential records, protect essential records, identify and evaluate hazards and risks, who has access to essential records, and incorporate them into your COOP plans. To register for this free course, visit Iowa HSEMD's training website: <http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training/>.

If you have any questions, contact **Susan Green** at susan.green@iowa.gov or 515.725.3243, **Beth Lewis** at beth.lewis@iowa.gov or 515.725.3204, or **Amy Meston** at amy.meston@iowa.gov or 515.725.3236. Ω

Federal Assistance for Iowa Denied

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"The storms and flooding caused extensive damage to infrastructure in the two impacted counties," said Governor Branstad.

The State may ask for additional counties to be added if the damage warrants such a request.

In addition, the Governor is requesting that the United States Small Business Administration (SBA) grant a Physical Disaster Declaration for Dubuque County. A Physical Disaster Declaration would make available to Dubuque County residents the Disaster Loan Program, which would allow low-interest loans to be made available to those impacted by flash flooding that occurred July 27–28.



On Aug. 3, state, local and federal officials conducted a joint preliminary damage assessment along with representatives from the SBA and determined there was sufficient damage to homes and businesses to warrant a request for a Physical Disaster Declaration. Ω

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division

A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense

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Secure & Prepared is published by the Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division for those involved in the homeland security system in the state of Iowa.

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HSEMD Mission

Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

We're on the Web!

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

Next Generation 9-1-1 Service Comes to Iowa

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30 years, it has been stretched to its limit," said HSEMD Administrator Derek Hill. "Many Iowans are using new wireless and Internet-based communication devices that offer text, video, and picture messaging capabilities, but unfortunately the current E-911 system was never intended to be able to handle these technologies."

An NG-911 emergency services IP-based system will facilitate all the current functions and features of the current E-911 system, but will support the new technologies. While these forms of communications are not immediately available through the current service providers, NG-911 will have the system functionality to support texting, video, and picture messaging once it is developed by the carriers and made available to the Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) who process the 9-1-1 calls through the NG-911 system.

"Modern communications has created the need for a more advanced system to access emergency care," said HSEMD's Barbara Vos, Iowa's E-911 program manager. "This solution will equalize emergency services across Iowa by allowing its PSAPs to connect to the statewide emergency services IP Network in order to receive and process 9-1-1 calls from both legacy and new technologies."

HSEMD recently awarded a five-year contract to TeleCommunication Systems, Inc (TCS) to develop Iowa's NG-911 Emergency Services IP system and services. The \$2.7 million project is funded by a \$1.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transporta-

tion's Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The matching \$1.3 million will come from Iowa's wireless surcharge carry-over funds. Grants were awarded to 30 states and territories.

Implementation of the NG-911 Emergency Services IP System is the first step in developing an interconnected system of local and regional emergency services networks for nationwide emergency services. The overall goal is to improve the ability of emergency services to share information among the various stakeholders in our communities.

"TCS is dedicated to creating NG-911 solutions that improve the capabilities and quality of emergency communications," said Chris Nabinger, senior vice president of safety and security for TCS. "We will be working closely with the State of Iowa 911 Program to ensure two things: first, that we meet all of its requirements for protecting its citizens, and second, that the state's PSAPs can receive a wide range of information promptly and accurately."

For more information on Iowa's E-911 program, visit www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/programs/E_911.html. Ω

