



SECURE & PREPARED

Sept. 9, 2011

Volume 7, Issue 14

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September is Family Preparedness Month

Gov. Terry E. Branstad has proclaimed September as Family Preparedness Month in Iowa.

National Preparedness Month was created in response to the terrorist attacks of 9/11. As this year marks the 10th anniversary of 9/11, we will remember those lost, honor our first responders, and renew our commitment to prepare and plan for all disasters and emergencies.



Sept. 11, 2002 - A NY firefighter attends a 9/11 observance at Ground Zero. Photo by Andrea Booher, FEMA.

Iowans are being urged to take steps now to be prepared for emergencies and disasters.

"It is critical that we don't lose focus and forget about what could happen, in any community, at any time," said

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Latest Disaster Information

The state of Iowa has experienced more than its share of severe weather this year. After a tornado ripped through Mapleton in April, several counties have experienced significant flooding, storms and dangerous straight-line winds. In addition to FEMA Disaster 1977 (for severe storms, flooding and tornadoes in six northwest Iowa counties), Iowa has received three additional Presidential Disaster Declarations in 2011. The second declaration (DR-1998) came

at the end of June, for flooding that began May 25 in six counties along the Missouri River: Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Pottawattamie and Woodbury.

President Obama issued a third disaster declaration for the state this year (DR-4016) on Aug. 24, for severe storms, straight-line winds and flooding that occurred in six counties July 9-14: Benton, Clay, Dickinson, Marshall, Story and Tama. And on Aug.

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Registration info on page 5!

September is Family Preparedness Month

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Gov. Branstad. "We need to remember the sacrifice that more than 3,000 individuals and their families made 10 years ago on that tragic day."

"We may not be able to prevent a terrorist act or a natural disaster, but there are things we can do to ensure our families and our communities are better prepared. We all have a role in preparedness," noted Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division Administrator J. Derek Hill. "We continue to stress the importance of being prepared for any emergency or disaster, natural or human-made. The message is not just about preparedness, but is also about empowerment—individuals can and do make a difference."

Being prepared means:

- **Families and individuals** have an emergency supply kit so they can be self-reliant for at least three days in case of emergency, and they have a plan for how they will respond and reconnect with other family members after an emergency;
- **Employers and business groups** need to plan

for how they will survive a disaster, back up critical information, develop a plan for assisting employees on site, establish a call tree to account for employees, and identify back-up sources of power and supplies;

- **Schools** need to develop, implement, and communicate a crisis plan. See the U.S. Department of Education's Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center; and
- **EVERYONE** needs to stay informed, understand the specific risks in your community and how to prepare for them, and know how to get information and alerts from local, state, tribal and territorial emergency management agencies.

Disasters and emergencies of all kinds can strike anywhere at any time. Investing in the preparedness of ourselves, families, businesses and schools can reduce fatalities and economic devastation in our communities, our state, and our nation. For more preparedness information throughout the month of September, visit www.BeReady.iowa.gov. Ω

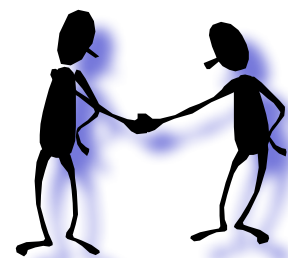


Make Plans to Visit Prepare Fair

Employee preparedness is the single most important effort that a business owner can undertake to ensure the business will survive a disaster and recover. Without employees, there is no business. Those employees who work for employers who have taken the time to help them prepare themselves and their family are more likely to be effective during a disaster and the recovery phase.

The Central Iowa Chapter of Safeguard Iowa Partnership is hosting a free, public education event to encourage individuals, families, employees and employers to get a kit, make a plan, be informed. This Prepare Fair will be held Oct. 8, 2011, from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. at Capitol Square in downtown Des Moines. A number of exciting activities, displays and free door prizes will be available.

The better prepared your employees are, the better your company's plan to withstand and recover from a disaster will be. Get a kit. Make a plan. Be informed. For more information, visit the Safeguard Iowa website at www.safeguardiowa.org. Ω



Be Ready Iowa! ✓



Latest Disaster Information

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31, Obama authorized the fourth disaster declaration (DR-4018) for Dubuque and Jackson counties, as a result of severe storms and flooding that occurred July 27-29.

Public Assistance

All four disasters have been approved for Public Assistance only. Public Assistance puts into motion long-term federal recovery programs, some of which are matched by state programs, and designed to help 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.

Hazard Mitigation

As part of each disaster declaration, the state will also receive funds to conduct hazard mitigation activities for the entire state of Iowa. This funding will help minimize the impact of future natural disasters by taking steps now to strengthen existing infrastructure.

Individual Assistance

Federal Individual Assistance has been requested for only one disaster in 2011. On Sept. 1, Gov. Branstad was informed that his Aug. 12 request to appeal the denial of Individual Assistance benefits for five of six counties as part of DR-1998 (Fremont, Harrison, Monona, Pottawattamie and Woodbury) was granted. The governor originally asked for an extension until Nov.

15. FEMA granted the extension until Oct. 7, in part, because additional time is needed to allow for flood waters to recede, safe access to damage homes be restored and more damage assessments be conducted. The extension will allow Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management officials the time needed to work with local officials to bolster Iowa's appeal by capturing damages and associated impacts will have until that date to allow river levels to recede assess homes.

Should Individual Assistance be approved for any of the five counties, the program will be 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.

Small Business Administration Loans

Low-interest disaster loans are also now available to certain private, nonprofit organizations (PNPs) in Iowa following President Obama's federal disaster declaration for DR-4016. Only PNPs that provide essential government services are eligible for assistance.



The disaster declaration makes Small Business Administration (SBA) assistance available in the Iowa counties of Benton, Clay, Dickinson, Marshall, Story and Tama. All interested PNPs should

begin the process by registering with FEMA. At the time of registration, FEMA will initially determine if the PNP qualifies to immediately apply for a grant from FEMA's PA program. All other eligible PNPs will be referred to the SBA for a low-interest disaster loan to cover property damages. If SBA cannot approve a low-interest disaster loan or meet all of the PNP's needs, SBA may refer the PNP back to FEMA.

SBA may lend PNPs up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

Applicants may apply for an SBA loan online via SBA's secure web-

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Disaster Update

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site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Disaster loan information and applications are also available by calling (800) 659-2955, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or on the SBA website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call (800) 877-8339.

Disaster Recovery Fund

During the last week in August, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) implemented a freeze on some types of disaster aid in order to extend the remaining balance of the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) while awaiting passage of appropriations legislation. Federal funding from the DRF is still avail-

able for removal of debris and emergency protective measures and to meet the immediate needs of disaster survivors. It is unknown at this time what impact the freeze will have on recovery efforts in Iowa. Ω

Safeguard Iowa, Iowa Homeland Security Offer Free Webinars

Thanks to Safeguard Iowa, a three-part FREE exercise webinar series is being offered to anyone who is interested in participating. Three types of exercises will be addressed: tabletop/discussion, functional and full-scale. John Halbrook and Steve Warren, exercise training officers with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, will provide tips on how to make your exercises more interesting and challenging.

Sept. 14, 2011

Tabletop/Discussion Exercises

Objectives:

- What defines a discussion exercise?
- What objectives are best tested in a discussion exercise?
- Intended audience?
- Planning timelines?
- Agenda and modules
- Documenting exercise outcomes
- Case study
- Tips, tricks and resources you can utilize

Oct. 12, 2011

Functional Exercises

Objectives:

- What defines a functional exercise?
- What objectives are best tested in a discussion exercise?
- Intended audience?
- Planning timelines?
- Case study
- Tips, tricks and resources you can utilize

Nov. 16, 2011

Full-scale Exercises

Objectives:

- What defines a full-scale exercise?
- What objectives are best tested in a full-scale exercise?
- Intended audience?
- How do you build up to full-scale exercise?
- Planning timelines

- After-action reporting and/or corrective actions
- Case study
- Tips, tricks and resources you can utilize

The webinars are free and open to everyone, providing a great review for experienced exercisers and also a good introduction and overview for new participants. Each webinar is 1–2 p.m. and registration is required. Click on the individual links to register. Ω



SAFEGUARD
IOWA
PARTNERSHIP

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Intermediate ICS (ICS-300)

This course is intended for all personnel who could fill supervisory-level positions in ICS organizations. Topics include organizing for events and incidents, planning for events and incidents and incident resource management. To register, or if you have any questions, please contact **Liz Manion** at **515-382-7229**, mmanion@storycounty.com. This class is sponsored by the Region One Homeland Security Board.

When: Sept. 29-30,
8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Where: Ankeny Fire Dept.
120 NW Ash Drive
Ankeny

Intermediate ICS (ICS-300)

To register, contact **B.J. Dvorak** at bj.dvorak@jecc-ema.org or 319-356-6762. Please provide your name, address, organization, email address and phone number.

When: Oct. 8-9,
8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Where: Johnson County EMA
4529 Melrose Ave.
Iowa City

Terrorism in Iowa: Issues and Prospects 2011

Choose from two dates for this course. Led by Professor of political science Bradley Dyke, Des Moines Area Community College, this workshop provides relevant information on terrorism in Iowa. Class modules explore the characteristics of extremists, developing awareness versus spreading fear, decision making, civil liberties, and first response. The workshop is intended for community stakeholders including local law enforcement, emergency managers, school officials, local health, local business, and local leaders.

First Workshop

When: Sept. 23, 8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Where: Hamilton Co. EMA
2300 Superior St.
Webster City

Second Workshop

When: Dec. 14, 8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Where: Grinnell Public Safety Bldg
Sixth Ave. & Spring St.
Grinnell

To register, or if you have any questions, please contact **Liz Manion** at **515-382-7229**, mmanion@storycounty.com. This class is sponsored by the Region One Homeland Security Board. Ω

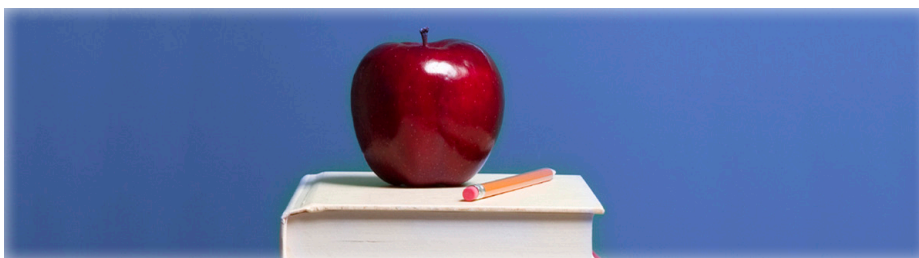


Register Now for Governor's Conference

Registration for the 8th Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference is now available online.

The conference will be Nov. 1-2, 2011, at the Sheraton West Des Moines. To register, go to www.iowahomelandsecurity.org and click the conference link on the home page.

Early-bird registration is open until Oct. 1 and is \$125. **After Oct. 1, registration goes up to \$150.** Conference attendees may pay by check, money order, or credit card. A credit card form is available online to complete and send to HSEMD via a secure fax number. (You will need a current copy of Adobe Reader to open this file. Adobe Reader is free and available online: www.adobe.com/products/reader.html). Ω



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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

HSEMD Soldiers Return Home

Two Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management employees have returned to work at the Division after being on active duty in the Middle East.

Craig Bargfrede, who works as an operations officer in the Recovery Bureau, returned to the U.S. at the end of June after a 12-month deployment. Bargfrede, a Colonel in the Army National Guard, was the commander of the 734th Agri-Business Development Team, Task Force Hawkeye. The team was stationed in Kunar Province, which is in northeast Afghanistan along the border with Pakistan, for about 11 months. Bargfrede said the deployment was historic because it was the first time a National Guard team was comprised of both Army and Air Force personnel.

The team's mission was to assist the provincial and district agriculture officials with rebuilding their agriculture infrastructure. They worked very closely with the Afghans in developing agriculture training and education for both crops and livestock, coaching them on how to develop and manage ag programs and budgets, and teaching them how to develop plans to improve their watershed management.

Since his return from active duty, Bargfrede has been officially trans-



ferred to the Minnesota National Guard, where he serves as a deputy adjutant general.

Welcome back and thank you for your service, Craig!

Matt Parrino, an infrastructure protection specialist with HSEMD, has also recently returned from Afghanistan. He was stationed at the most remote combat outpost in the country, at Najil, where the nearest reinforcements are a three-hour drive away. His team's mission was to conduct partnered operations in the Alishang and Dowlat Shah districts, in order to legitimize the government of Afghanistan.

Parrino is a captain in the Guard. He was deployed for about 15 months. This was his second deployment; for his first deployment, he spent 19 months in Iraq in from 2006 to 2007.

Welcome back, Matt, and thank you for your service! Ω