



Secure & Prepared

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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Avian influenza takes its toll in Iowa

Local, state, and federal partners join forces to stop the spread of the virus

The H5N2 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus has devastated Iowa chicken and turkey operations since it first surfaced in Buena Vista County last month. Since April 13, 65 sites in 17 counties have been quarantined and all birds at those sites – approximately 28 million – have been or are scheduled to be humanely euthanized to help stop the spread of the disease. Three other sites were presumed to have been infected, but have tested negative for the virus.

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) activated the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at the end of April; the State EOC has been partially activated since then. HSEMD has worked cooperatively with officials from the Iowa departments of Agriculture and Land Stewardship,

Transportation, Natural Resources, Public Safety, Human Services, Public Health, Inspections and Appeals, and Corrections, as well as the Iowa National Guard, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), local emergency managers, and industry representatives from the Iowa Poultry Association, Iowa Turkey Federation, and several landfills.

Several Iowa counties have also activated their EOCs.

Governor Terry E. Branstad recently extended a proclamation of disaster emergency in response to the outbreak, until July 1, 2015. The proclamation was set to expire May 31, and activates the disaster response and recovery aspect of the Iowa Emergency Response Plan, any annex to that plan dealing with foreign animal disease, and those local response plans applicable to the counties affected by this disaster. The proclamation also

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authorizes the use of State resources, including personnel, supplies, and equipment, to prevent the spread of the disease, as well as the suspension of certain regulatory provisions of Iowa Code to expedite the disposal of poultry carcasses.

On May 21, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) announced that all live bird exhibitions at county fairs, the Iowa State Fair, and other events would be canceled due to avian influenza. The order also prohibits the sale of live birds at livestock auction markets, swap meets, and exotic sales. It is effective through the end of 2015.

As Iowa continues to deal with the outbreak, there is hope that the spread of the virus will eventually stop due to elevated summer temperatures. However, there is the fear that it could reappear when temperatures cool this fall.

Avian Influenza in the U.S.

The United States has the strongest Avian Influenza (AI) surveillance program in the world. As part of the existing USDA avian influenza response plans, Federal and State partners as well as industry are responding quickly and decisively to these outbreaks by following these five basic steps:



Workers disinfect a truck leaving an infected Iowa poultry farm. Photo by USDA.

- 1) Quarantine – restricting movement of poultry and poultry-moving equipment into/out of the control area;
- 2) Eradicate – humanely euthanizing the affected flock(s);
- 3) Monitor region – testing wild and domestic birds in a broad area around the quarantine area;
- 4) Disinfect – kills the virus in the affected flock locations; and
- 5) Test – confirm that poultry farms in the area are free of the virus.

IDALS, in partnership with the Iowa Department of Public Health, is working directly with poultry workers at the affected facility to ensure proper precautions are being taken.

These virus strains can travel in wild birds without those birds ap-

pearing sick. People should avoid contact with sick/dead poultry or wildlife. If contact occurs, wash your hands with soap and water and change clothing before having any contact with healthy domestic poultry and birds.

All bird owners, whether commercial producers or backyard flock owners, should continue to practice good biosecurity, prevent contact between their birds and wild birds, and report sick birds or unusual bird deaths to state/federal officials, either through the **state veterinarian** at **515.281.5321** or through **USDA's** toll-free number at **1.866.536.7593**.

Information will also be posted to the [IDALS website](#). Ω

Heat Awareness Day is June 11

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) and the National Weather Service (NWS) will recognize Heat Awareness Day on June 11.

Heat is one of the most deadly weather phenomena. According to the NWS, in a normal year, more people die on average due to excessive heat than floods, lightning, tornadoes and hurricanes combined.

In Iowa, summer means two things: heat and humidity. Both combine to create conditions which tax the human body beyond its natural cooling abilities. Heat is a silent killer, and knowing the dangers of summer heat and how to prepare for it can save lives.

There are some things you can do to minimize your risk for heat-related illness or death:

- Eat light, well-balanced meals.

- Drink plenty of water regularly. Persons who have epilepsy or heart, kidney, or liver disease; are on fluid-restrictive diets; or have a problem with fluid retention should consult a doctor before increasing liquid intake.
- Limit intake of alcoholic beverages, which can cause further body dehydration.
- Take salt tablets only if specified by your physician.

Children and cars: A lethal combination

According to the Department of Geosciences at San Francisco State University, at least 30 children in the U.S. died in 2014 from hyperthermia, after being left in parked vehicles. More than 600 such deaths have been reported since 1998.



Hyperthermia occurs when the body absorbs more heat than it can dissipate, and can occur even on a mild day. Studies have shown that the temperature inside a parked vehicle can rapidly rise to a dangerous level for children, adults and pets. Leaving windows slightly open does not significantly decrease the heating rate. The effects can be more severe on children (and dogs) because their bodies warm at a faster rate than adults.

NEVER leave your child unattended in a vehicle, even with the windows down. Beat the heat: check the backseat!

Protect your pets

Don't exercise your dog when it's warm. Instead, exercise early in the morning or late at night, or where he can cool off in water. Remember, your dog can overheat when you're just feeling "warm."

If your pet does show any signs of distress due to overheating, take him to the vet immediately. For more information on keeping your entire family safe from summer heat, visit www.beready.iowa.gov. Ω

Training opportunities

HSEEP (L0146)

When: June 10-11, 2015
8 a.m.–5 p.m.
Where: Joint Forces Headquarters
6100 NW 78th Ave.
Johnston

Prerequisites: IS-120
(IS-130 recommended)

Target audience: EMA, law enforcement, EMS, fire services, government administration, health care, public health, public safety communications

This two-day intermediate-level course provides a comprehensive overview of HSEEP concepts. Using instructional and applied learning, participants will learn exercise management, design and development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning.

To register, visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3234** or cristie.duric@iowa.gov with any questions.

Intermediate ICS (ICS 300)

When: June 22-23, 2015
8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Where: Law Enforcement Center
4514 14th Ave. NE
Le Mars

Prerequisites: ICS-100, 200, 700, 800

Target audience: For those who would respond to an incident (command staff, section chiefs, unit leaders, division/group supervisors, branch directors, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations staff)

To register, visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Tara Geddes** at **712.546.3380** with any questions.

Emergency Management Professional Development Course

When: June 23, 2015
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Where: Polk County EOC
907 Carpenter Ave.
Des Moines

Delivered in a four-part series over a calendar year, the Emergency Management Professional Development course provides a comprehensive overview of the statutory requirements and professional duties of today's emergency manager. The course will benefit new and experienced emergency managers alike. Developed and delivered by practitioners in four separate six-hour sessions, the course is an opportunity for peer-to-peer

learning through lecture as well as task-oriented coaching. Technical and soft skill development in the areas of administration, planning, resource management, training, and exercises is included. Sessions can be taken individually and in any sequence, however, all four sessions are required for a full-course certificate of completion.

Session Schedule

Early Spring: Governance, Resource Management, Direction and Control, Damage Assessment, Operations and Procedures, and Professional Development

Late Spring: Governance, Hazard Analysis, Planning, and Professional Development

Fall: Governance, Training, Exercises, Homeland Security, Budgeting, and Professional Development

Winter: Governance, Communications and Warning, Public Education, Grants, and Professional Development

To register, visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3234** or cristie.duric@iowa.gov with any questions.

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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.

Secure & Prepared is published for those involved in the homeland security/emergency management system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact Stefanie Bond at stefanie.bond@iowa.gov.

News Team

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Training opportunities

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Continuity of Operations & Exercise Design

When: June 29, 2015
8 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Where: 1305 E. Walnut St.
Level A - Room 5
Des Moines

Prerequisites: None.
Recommended online course, IS-546a (Continuity of Operations Awareness)

Target audience: state agency representatives, exercise coordinator, continuity manager, security manager, budget-procurement manager, emergency manager, IT manager, facility manager, essential records manager.

Basic level course that provides a comprehensive overview of HSEEP concepts and how it relates to continuity of operations.

To register, visit **HSEMD's training website**. Contact **Beth Lewis** at 515.725.3204 or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Jim Marwedel** at 515.725.3249 or jim.marwedel@iowa.gov with any questions.

ICS Train-the-Trainer (L-449)

When: July 7-10, 2015
8 a.m.–5 p.m.
Where: Camp Dodge-Rec Hall
Bldg. 3585 (B57)
Des Moines

Prerequisites: ICS-100, 200, 300, 400, 700, 800

Target audience: Must have working knowledge of ICS through experience and training AND have experience delivering adult training; completed all required prerequisite courses; have worked as an incident commander, command or general staff.

To register, visit **HSEMD's training website**. Contact **Beth Lewis** at 515.725.3204 or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Cristie Duric** at 515.725.3234 or cristie.duric@iowa.gov with any questions. Please submit your certificates to Cristie Duric via email. Ω



www.beready.iowa.gov

**Build a kit.
Make a plan.
Be aware.**