



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire

Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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- [DNR cautions lowans to stay safe and avoid flood waters](#)
- [Missouri River group to meet October 24 in Sioux City](#)

DNR cautions lowans to stay safe and avoid flood waters

MEDIA CONTACT: Ted Petersen at 515-725-0268 or Ted.Petersen@dnr.iowa.gov.

WINDSOR HEIGHTS—Heavy rainfall and extensive flooding throughout most of the state makes many Iowa streams unsafe for recreation.

While fast stream currents are the biggest risk for people, high waters can also carry dangerous debris and bacteria. “For their own safety, we’re recommending people stay out of the water until several days after streams return to normal,” said Ted Petersen, supervisor of DNR’s Windsor Heights field office.

“Following heavy rains, almost 100 communities from Keokuk to Waterloo, from Dubuque to Clarinda have reported wastewater discharges since October 1,” he said.

“Widespread heavy rainfall overwhelmed city treatment plants and a number of livestock operations have reported overflowing manure storage systems,” Petersen said. “Most of these facilities have national pollution prevention discharge elimination system or NPDES permits.” Put simply, an NPDES permit allows them to overflow due to heavy rains.

One discharging livestock facility, Cyclone Cattle near Macedonia in Pottawattamie County, has an expired NPDES permit. “Its lagoons have recently been pumped out and there are no animals in the facility.”

Managers of city and industrial wastewater treatment plants, and livestock facilities that are discharging or expecting to discharge should contact their local DNR [field office](#). “We’ll work with them to identify solutions and minimize impacts to nearby streams,” Petersen said.

After hours, facilities can call the DNR emergency spill line at 515-725-8694. The DNR website has more information about [spill reporting requirements](#).

Missouri River group to meet October 24 in Sioux City

MEDIA CONTACT: Sharon Tahtinen, DNR, at 515-725-8299 or Sharon.Tahtinen@dnr.iowa.gov.

SIOUX CITY—The State Interagency Missouri River Authority (SIMRA) will hear about precipitation trends, navigation updates, fish management strategies and more at its Oct. 24 meeting in Sioux City.

The meeting begins at 10 a.m. at the Betty Strong Encounter Center, 900 Larsen Park Rd. Interested people can attend the meeting by conference call. Dial 866-685-1580 and follow the prompts. The conference code is 4510673319 followed by the pound (#) sign.

The complete agenda is available on the SIMRA website at www.iowadnr.gov/simra.

SIMRA includes representatives from the Governor's Office, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, the Iowa Utilities Board, the Iowa Economic Development Authority, Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Iowa Department of Transportation.