



SECURE & PREPARED

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Special points of interest:

- As of July 9th, a total of 1,603 Iowans have applied for federal Individual Assistance under the southwest Iowa flooding declaration. See article on page 3.
- The rollout and training for the upcoming FFY 2008 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) will be held in September 2007. See article on page 4.
- Iowa has had an active role in developing a National Preparedness System Database for inventory and tracking target capabilities. See page 5.

SBA Offers Assistance to Eastern Iowa Tornado Victims

On June 29, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced that low-interest disaster loans were being made available to Iowa residents and businesses affected by the severe storms and tornadoes that occurred on June 1st in Louisa and Muscatine Counties. The neighboring counties of Cedar, Des Moines, Henry, Johnson, Scott and Washington are also included.

Following a June 22 denial of Iowa's request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration, SBA acted under its own authority to declare these counties a disaster area. SBA customer service representatives will be on hand at the following Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application.

Louisa County
 Grandview City Hall
 Mondays and Tuesdays
 9 am – 6 pm
 July 2-July 17

Muscatine County
 Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department
 Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
 9 am – 6 pm
 July 5-July 19

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Make Plans to Attend the Annual Homeland Security Conference

It's not too late to make plans to attend this year's Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference, sponsored by the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division July 16-18 at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines. Registration is no longer being taken on-line, but you can still register at the door on the opening day of the conference.



TEAMING FOR SUCCESS

Governor Chet Culver, Lt. Governor and Homeland Security Advisor Patty Judge, and Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Administrator David Miller will open the conference. *Continued on page 2.*

Ten Iowa Counties Eligible for Late Freeze Assistance

On June 14, Iowa made a request for a U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Disaster Designation for 10 counties and their 24 contiguous counties for damages vegetable and fruit growers suffered during the late spring freeze. While we are still awaiting word on that request, Missouri recently received a secretarial designation for the same event, which includes 10 contiguous counties in southern Iowa. Producers in Appanoose, Davis, Decatur, Fremont, Lee, Page, Ringgold, Taylor, Van Buren and Wayne Counties are eligible for low-interest loans through the Farm Service Agency.

Ten counties and 24 contiguous counties were included in Iowa's request. The only counties that would be covered under both Missouri and Iowa's requests, should Iowa's be granted, are Fremont and Page Counties.

SBA Offers Assistance to Eastern Iowa Tornado Victims

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Individuals and business owners unable to visit SBA's Disaster Loan Outreach Centers may obtain information by calling toll-free (800) 659-2955. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll-free (800) 877-8339. Individuals may also visit SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is August 27, 2007. The deadline to return economic injury applications is March 28, 2008.

The State Individual Assistance Program also remains available to affected residents in Jackson, Louisa, and Muscatine Counties. The program provides limited financial assistance in the event of a Governor's Disaster Declaration for eligible households that have disaster-related needs and are unable to meet such needs through other means. The program awards grants to a maximum \$3,319 per household. Applicants must provide receipts for qualifying uninsured expenses. For more information, visit: www.dhs.state.ia.us and click on Spring Storm Help or call toll-free 877-937-3663.

Plan to Attend the Homeland Security Conference

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Plenary speakers on day one include Richard Hainje, regional administrator for FEMA Region VII on the reorganization of FEMA; Dr. Anthony Cahill, director of the Division of Disability and Health Policy at the University of New Mexico, School of Medicine on planning for special needs populations; and Dr. Haven Simmons, associate professor at Salisbury University on the need for public information officers.

Breakout sessions on day two of the conference will give attendees the opportunity to choose topics most relevant to them, and cover a wide variety of subjects, including the National Incident Management System, homeland security grants, special needs planning, and utilizing public information officers.

Plenary speakers on day three include: John Metzger, primary firearms Instructor at the Iowa Law enforcement Academy on school security and terrorism and Craig Weber, program administrator for the Iowa Pipeline Association on the Iowa Pipeline.

A wide variety of exhibitors will be on hand with the latest state-of-the-art equipment and products. The exhibitors will be giving away prizes on the final day of the conference. You must be present to win.

The registration fee is \$175. Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted. For an agenda or to register, visit www.iowahomelandsecurity.org and click on the conference link at the top of the page. See you there!

Southwest Iowa Disaster Update

As of July 9, a total of 1,603 Iowans have applied for federal Individual Assistance under the southwest Iowa flooding declaration. Registrations have dropped to the point where both of the Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) have been closed and the mobile DRC made its last stop in Iowa on Saturday. The deadline to apply for the federal Individual Assistance program is July 24. That deadline applies to the 11 counties covered under the original declaration and the three add-ons. Just over \$2.2 million has been disbursed to Iowans under the Individual Assistance program for both housing assistance and other needs assistance.

To register with FEMA, residents and business owners may call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or go on-line at www.fema.gov. The TTY number is 1-800-462-7585 for the hearing- or speech-impaired. The toll-free lines are operated from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. (CDT) seven days a week until further notice.

Work continues on the project worksheets for the Public Assistance program. Just over \$2.1 million has been obligated to rebuild infrastructure under this program.

Meanwhile the Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved over \$2.6 million in low-interest disaster loans. The SBA will retain a SBA Disaster Loan Recovery Center at the Super 8 Hotel, Hospitality Room in Missouri Valley, through Friday, July 13. Hours of operation are from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. SBA representatives will provide individuals and business owners with face-to-face service in completing their loan applications, answering questions about SBA's loan program, and explaining how an SBA disaster loan can help pay for their disaster losses.

Applicants with questions concerning their SBA disaster loan application may also call the SBA Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 or visit the SBA website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

Low interest disaster loans from SBA are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private, non-profit organizations. Disaster loans from SBA are the primary source of funds for repairing and rebuilding disaster damaged private property.

Iowa National Guard Assists Kansas Via EMAC

In cooperation with Governor Culver, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and the Iowa Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, 26 members from three Iowa Army National Guard units have deployed to Fredonia, Kansas to provide water purification services.

Through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, the state of Kansas requested assistance from the State of Iowa to help provide potable water after Fredonia's municipal water supply was contaminated by extensive flooding. In response, the Iowa National Guard is providing four Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Units (ROWPUs) and two, 5,000-gallon water tankers to support water purification operations in Kansas. At full production, each ROWPU can produce 60,000 gallons of water per 24-hour period, for a total of 240,000 gallons per day.

Support is provided under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, an agreement executed previously between all 50 states, two territories, and the District of Columbia, to assist one another in times of crisis. EMAC is a national, mutual aid and partnership agreement that allows state-to-state assistance during governor-declared or federally-declared emergencies. Once the conditions for providing assistance to a requesting state have been set, the terms constitute a legally binding contractual agreement that make affected states responsible for reimbursement.

Capitol Complex CERT Class Well Attended

Twenty-six students participated in the June 25-27 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training in the Ola Babcock Miller Building on the Capitol Complex in Des Moines.

CERT trains people in basic disaster response skills, such as fire suppression, basic first aid, urban search and rescue, and helps them to take a more active role in emergency preparedness. These teams can also help respond to immediate needs in the aftermath of a major disaster, when emergency services are not immediately available or are delayed.

Members of the following state agencies and other organizations participated: the Iowa Departments of Administrative Services, Revenue, Public Safety, Elder Affairs, and Workforce Development; Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management; the Iowa Insurance Division; Legislative Services; Vocational Rehabilitation; the U.S. Army; ING Investments; and the Ankeny school nurse.



Above, a CERT student practices first aid techniques on a "victim."

The final exercise on June 27 simulated multiple intentional explosions on the second and ground floors of the Miller Building. Twenty volunteers simulated victims adding realism to exercise.

The next Capitol Complex CERT Class will be held August 20-22, in the Hoover Building, Level A, Conference Room 6. Sign up by visiting: <http://hls.extension.iastate.edu/calendar/default.aspx>.

FFY 2008 EMPG Rollout Coming in September

The rollout and training for the upcoming FFY 2008 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) will be held in September 2007. The EMPG program is the cornerstone for strong emergency management programs at the state and local levels.

EMPG supports comprehensive all-hazard emergency management programs by providing funding for essential expenses including salaries, benefits, equipment, supplies, maintenance of facilities, and other necessary costs for local emergency management agencies. State emergency management agencies use EMPG funds to enhance their emergency management capabilities in a range of areas that include planning, equipping and training; conducting exercises; and providing for all-hazards emergency management operations. EMPG differs from other federal grants in that funding can be used for personnel costs such as salaries and benefits.

Beginning in FFY 2008, EMPG funds will be distributed through implementation of a new formula based on part/full time status of the coordinator, 50 percent equal share base, and 50 percent population with a cap of \$33,000. The September rollout will focus on applying the new formula and developing the EMPG budget so it is easy to track, monitor, and pass an audit. In addition, training will cover strategies for developing effective performance-based work plans along with requirements to improve quarterly performance reports.

The FFY 2008 EMPG application period will begin October 1, 2007 and close October 31, 2007. Please note that any county emergency management agency planning to apply for the FFY 2008 EMPG grant must be compliant with planning, training, and exercise requirements by September 30, 2007.

Continuing Education Reminder

County coordinators, please remember that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) independent study baseline courses must be completed within five years of employment. For those that have completed the baseline courses, there is a 24-hour continuing education requirement. These requirements run the federal fiscal year (October 1st to September 30th). Credit may also be earned by attending the Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference and other conference and training sessions.

Also, HSEMD is currently working with the Iowa Emergency Management Association (IEMA) on a possible replacement for IS-513, The Professional in Emergency Management. This course was under revision for over a year, but has now been dropped from FEMA's course list.

Later in July, State Training Officer David Hempen will send out individual statements on how many hours HSEMD has on record for each coordinator.

National Preparedness System Update

Last fall, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) put together a national work group focused on developing a Web-based database that will be used to support assessment, tracking, inventory and reporting of capabilities associated with the Target Capabilities List (TCL) and the National Preparedness Goal.

Since then, virtually every federal agency and nearly 30 percent of the states have had an active role in developing a National Preparedness System (NPS) Database for inventory and tracking target capabilities as required by Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 (HSPD 8). Basically, the requirement is to have a system in place for reporting by 2008 and to then gather and report information as to our overall national capability to Congress on an annual basis.

At this time, DHS contractors have a database that has been developed by a large number of federal, state, local and private sector partners. It is anticipated that a pilot of this system will take place early this fall.

DHS is looking to states like Iowa that have been very progressive and willing to work on a regional basis for capability and capacity building, for participation in a pilot test of the NPS. This would provide mutual benefit: DHS could and would benefit greatly from regional and local involvement, while Iowa would be on the front line of the development effort and would have a very active role in helping to determine the tool and process used to complete the required HSPD 8 task.

For the testing, many states will take one or two target capabilities and work on assessing and reporting capabilities in those specific areas. It is anticipated that this effort will probably take anywhere from four to seven working days to complete, depending upon the capability that was chosen to report against. For county emergency management coordinators and/or regions that are interested in participating in this pilot program, please contact HSEMD's Homeland Security Coordinator Tom Baumgartner or Assistant Coordinator Vicki Morris at 515-725-3231.

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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

Region VII LEPC Conference

The Region VII LEPC Conference will be held August 16-19 at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. The conference is sponsored by EPA Region 7, FEMA, tribal, state and local governments and business and industry.

The opening plenary keynote speaker is Dennis Mileti, professor emeritus at the University of Colorado at Boulder where he served as director of the Natural Hazards Center and as chair of the Department of Sociology. He is currently a member of the Department of Homeland Security's National Social Science Research Center on Terrorism. The closing plenary speaker is Mike Smith, international instructor and consultant for the U.S. Military and the Fire Service. He is a former deputy fire chief, Washington D.C. Fire Department (retired), and served as city-wide tour commander, risk manager, and training director.

Eight-hour training sessions are available on August 16 and six technical tracks are available on August 17 and 18, which include: health and medical; planning, training, and exercises; homeland security; technology; business and industry; and enhanced LEPCs.

The conference registration fee is \$50 until August 1 and \$100 after August 1. For more information or to register, visit: www.marc.org/gti/lepc-terc.



Region 7 Local Emergency
Planning Committee
2007 Conference

Personnel Notes

Chief Planner Kenneth Brink is leaving HSEMD. His last day is July 12. Ken has been with the Division for more than three years and has been proactive in the recovery initiatives encountered during this same period, especially as it relates to the disasters experienced in 2007.

Ken and his family plan to relocate to Colorado. All the best to Ken and his family.

We're on the Web!

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org