



SECURE & PREPARED

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Important Resources

For the latest in disaster funding information, visit the Rebuild Iowa Web site at www.rio.iowa.gov.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Governor's 6th Annual Homeland Security Conference will be **Oct. 5-7, 2009**, at the Sheraton West Des Moines. More information to follow as the date gets closer. See you there!

Community Disaster Grant Update

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division has begun the processing of Community Disaster Grant (CDG) applications. To date, HSEMD has processed more than \$2.8 million in payments to 140 eligible applicants. The Division is currently processing the remaining applications and anticipates having the process complete, with payments distributed, by the end of April. The deadline to apply for the grant was April 1, 2009.

The \$22 million Community Disaster Grant is part of the \$56 million Rebuild Iowa bill that was passed by the Iowa Legislature and signed into law by Governor Culver in February. The intent of the bill is to help Iowans recover from the disasters of 2008. The funds can be used for a broad range



of recovery efforts including: assistance to nonprofit organizations; public purchase of land and accompanying structures; repair, replacement or upgrade of public infrastructure damaged by disaster; increased costs associated with revaluing property due to natural disaster; small business assistance; and assistance for replacing or rehabilitating housing.

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Become a "Storm Ready" Community

Americans live in the most severe weather-prone country on Earth. Each year, Americans cope with an average of 10,000 thunderstorms, 5,000 floods, 1,000 tornadoes, and an average of two deadly landfalling hurricanes. And this is on top of winter storms, intense summer heat, high winds and other deadly weather



impacts. You can make sure your community is ready for the weather with the National Weather Service's StormReady® program.

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Training Opportunities

EOC Management and Operations (G775)

This course describes the interface between the on-scene Incident Command and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC); how to encourage officials to respond to the EOC; and the role, design and functions of the EOC and their importance as a component of the multi-agency coordination system.

The following regions currently have this training scheduled:

Region 2 – May 20-21, Charles City
Ft. Dodge Animal Health Auditorium
To register, go to the HSEMD training Web site at <http://hls.extension.iastate.edu/calendar>.

Region 3 – April 22-23, Spirit Lake
Contact **Michael Ehret** at **712.336.3987** to register.

Region 4 – June 11-12, Creston
Contact **Jo Duckworth** at **641.782.1622** to register.



CARVER Methodology

The nation's critical infrastructures face a myriad of physical and technical threats. These threats, whether natural or man-made, accidental or intentional, each carry a certain level of risk that could compromise national security, public safety and the economy. CARVER training (Critical Accessibility Recognizability Vulnerability Effect Recoverability) will offer participants an opportunity to learn how to plan and conduct a vulnerability assessment.

HSEMD will host two CARVER training sessions. The first training will be held May 27-29 at the State Emergency Operations Center in Johnston. The second training will take place June 1-3 at the Cerro Gordo Emergency Operations Center in Mason City. Travel and lodging are the responsibility of the participant. Interested parties can register via the HSEMD training Web site, <http://hls.extension.iastate.edu/calendar>. Questions should be directed to **Curt Sullivan** at Curt.Sullivan@iowa.gov or **Whitney Baethke** at Whitney.Baethke@iowa.gov.

News on the Web Front

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management has recently developed its own Twitter page!



Twitter is a “mini-blogging” Web application designed for friends, businesses, the media and other groups to keep their friends, family and “fans” updated – in real-time. Posts to a Twitter page are limited to 140 characters and can be sent or received on the internet or via mobile devices (cell phone, Blackberry, etc.). Those who have a Twitter page (anyone can create one) may “follow” another Twitter user and receive that person or organization’s updates conveniently in one spot – on their own Twitter home page. To access Iowa HSEMD’s Twitter site, you may follow the link from the HSEMD home page, www.iowahomelandsecurity.org, or go to <http://twitter.com/lowaHSEMD>.



The Be Ready Iowa Web site has been given a facelift! Check out the new look at www.be-readyiowa.org. Ω

Community Disaster Grant Update

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All counties and the cities within their boundaries covered by the Presidential Disaster Declaration for last spring’s disaster were eligible to apply. Grant dollars must be spent by June 30, 2010.

For more information on the Community Disaster Grant, visit the Iowa HSEMD Web site and choose Community Disaster Grant under the “Quick Links” section. Ω

Partnership Moves Forward with Multiple Projects

Numerous projects developed by the Multi-State Partnership for Security in Agriculture are capturing national attention this year. This year, utilizing 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funds, the Partnership has already accomplished:

- Functional demonstration project of animal disease management and euthanasia techniques
- Plans for deployment of the National Veterinary Stockpile
- Interface with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on foreign animal disease response

Ongoing Partnership projects to be addressed this year include:

- Tabletop exercise and functional deployment of the National Veterinary Stockpile
- Full scale exercise on stop animal movement between Kansas and Oklahoma
- Meet with agriculture and animal disaster response partners from hurricane states



- Establish just-in-time training modules for animal disaster response
- Publish an agriculture all-hazards disaster guide for rural communities and producers

Member states will meet in late July for a planning and policy meeting to address training and projects. Other items on the agenda include developing a communications plan for disasters, integrating state and federal resource systems currently on different platforms, a tabletop exercise to test a multi-state stop animal movement plan, and hosting an interface with a USDA 3D team on animal disposal issues.

“Small states like ours need the Partnership because we can’t do it alone,” says Dr. Jesse Vollmer, North Dakota assistant state veterinarian. “Our partners can help us all do things both operationally and collaboratively.”

Funds for the Partnership come from individual state contributions based on HSGP awards for regional initiatives. Member states have expressed a strong commitment to the Partnership, especially in these difficult economic times. The multi-state structure offers efficient program delivery, manages project contracts, and provides a single source of administrative support that serves all states equally regardless of the size of their contribution.

The Multi-State Partnership includes 13 upper Midwestern states and is coordinated by Iowa Homeland Security Emergency Management. **Mark Shearer** is the project officer with **Beth Gathercole** and **Janean Soroka** providing administrative support. Ω

New Coordinator Training

County Emergency Coordinators from around the state came to Camp Dodge in Johnston for a two-day training March 31-April 1. A wide range of topics from planning to operations to PIO issues were covered. At right: Polk County Emergency Coordinator A.J. Mumm addresses the class. Ω



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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

New Employee Joins Iowa HSEMD

Grants Bureau

Christine Pardee began work at HSEMD on March 16. She is the new grants monitor for the bureau. Christine's duties at HSEMD include working with key stakeholders and program specialists to develop, implement and evaluate a comprehensive grant monitoring program for the division.

Christine has worked with local, state and federal government entities as well as non-profits, private businesses and policymakers for 15 years.

When she's not at work, Christine enjoys cooking, gardening, quilting, drawing, playing Scrabble and 10-point pitch, making stained glass windows and spending time outdoors. She has also been taking motorcycle riding lessons and is looking forward



Christine Pardee

to taking some long road trips this summer. Ω

Become a "Storm Ready" Community

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Some 90 percent of all presidentially-declared disasters are weather related, leading to around 500 deaths per year and nearly \$14 billion in damage. StormReady helps arm America's communities with the communication and safety skills needed to save lives and property – before and during the event. StormReady helps community leaders and emergency managers strengthen local safety programs.

StormReady communities are better prepared to save lives from the

onslaught of severe weather through better planning, education and awareness. No community is storm proof, but StormReady can help communities save lives.

In Iowa there are 13 communities, nine counties, four college/universities and one commercial site that have received a StormReady designation. For more information about them and how to become a StormReady community, go to www.stormready.noaa.gov. Ω