



SECURE & PREPARED

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Important Information

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

Register Now!

The Governor's 6th Annual Homeland Security Conference will be **Oct. 5-7, 2009**, at the Sheraton West Des Moines. To learn more and to register online, visit www.iowahomelandsecurity.org.

\$70 Million Approved for Property Acquisition Projects

Thirty property acquisition projects worth almost \$70 million have received FEMA final approval following last year's floods. Now local communities are working with owners to complete the final negotiations so the properties will be demolished, removed and turned into green space, to minimize the impact of future flooding around the state.

"That is the heart of the mitigation initiatives resulting from this disaster," explained State Hazard Mitigation Of-

ficer John Wageman. "We work with local communities to purchase flood-prone property to reduce impacts from future flooding events."

Wageman noted that while the acquisitions, which are funded with Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds, have received the headlines, the State expects to fund mitigation planning, tornado safe rooms, flood walls, utility retrofits, and other mitigation measures.

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Governor Requests Presidential Disaster Declaration for Black Hawk County

Two Counties Eligible for State Individual Assistance Program

In response to storms in July, Governor Culver has made a request to President Obama for a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Black Hawk County.

On July 10, 2009, severe weather caused considerable damage throughout Black Hawk County. The request by the Governor for Black Hawk County is for the Public Assistance Program, which is used to rebuild infrastructure for public and certain non-profit agencies. An assessment by Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and local emergency management staff found the severe weather caused over \$5.4 million in Public Assistance Program eligible damages in Black Hawk County.



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Sign Up Now for CERT Training!

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training will be held in August, September and October. The 2.5 day course is designed to give basic knowledge in several important emergency response areas to people who may be at an emergency scene.

Dates and locations:

Aug. 10-12, Hoover Building,
Iowa State Capitol Complex,
Des Moines

Sept. 21-23, Ankeny Labs,
Ankeny

October 19-21, Department
of Public Safety Building, Des
Moines



Sign up at www.iowhomelandsecurity.org, click on Training in the Quick Links section, then select Events Management System. Contact Erin Mullenix at erin.mullenix@iowa.gov for additional information. Ω

Counties Eligible for Assistance

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The request first goes to the FEMA Regional Office in Kansas City. It will then be forwarded to FEMA Headquarters in Washington, D.C. where it will be reviewed before going on to the White House and the federal Office of Budget and Management.

Two Counties Eligible for State Individual Assistance Program

As a result of storms in Black Hawk County on July 10 and Adair County on July 3, Governor Chet Culver issued a proclamation on July 17 to open the Iowa Individual Assistance Program for these two counties. This reimbursement program covers non-insured losses up to a maximum of \$5,000. This is a program designed to assist low-income Iowans. To be eligible individual or household incomes must be below 200 percent of the federal poverty level which would be annual income of less than \$20,800 for an individual and \$42,400 for a household of four.

To register for the program visit the Iowa Department of Human Services Web site at www.dhs.iowa.gov and click on Storm Help found on the front page. Or Iowans can call 1.877.937.3663.

It is important to remember this is a reimbursement program; receipts are required in order to receive payment.

The deadline to apply is September 1, 2009. Ω

HSEMD Participates in Nuclear Power Plant Exercise

If you were at the State Emergency Operations Center on July 21, 2009, this is an announcement you would have heard:

"This is an EXERCISE. A General Emergency has been declared at 1122 this morning at the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power station, near Blair, Nebraska. The power plant is being shut down and protective actions, including evacuation, are being implemented."

Facilities at the state, county and local levels demonstrated their capabilities in implementing plans and procedures to protect the public during a radiological emergency exercise involving the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station. Evaluated areas included: the emergency operations centers for the State, Harrison, and Pottawattamie Counties; joint public information center; public health; transportation access and control; elder care; dose assessment; reception centers; state field monitoring teams; and school district disaster response plans.

Fort Calhoun is one of three nuclear power plants HSEMD works with to conduct full-scale exercises every other year. HSEMD is also responsible for the development, implementation and maintenance of plans and procedures to ensure the protection of public health and safety in the event of a serious incident at any of the commercial nuclear power stations in and adjacent to Iowa. Ω

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Projects

...Continued from Page 1

Here is a snapshot of the approved projects as of July 29, 2009.

Applicant	Project Cost	Number of properties
Black Hawk County	\$1,946,755	17
Cedar Falls	\$11,914,250	151
Evansdale	\$661,143	6
Greene	\$816,942	13
La Porte City	\$1,165,326	13
New Hartford	\$1,663,434	27
Shell Rock	\$326,835	4
Waterloo	\$5,715,669	88
Waverly	\$8,565,805	74
Coralville	\$3,292,751	18
Iowa City	\$11,529,588	40
Linn County	\$2,248,290	17
Charles City #1	\$306,314	6
Charles City #2	\$797,882	11
Floyd County	\$160,058	2
Rockford	\$632,245	9
Des Moines #1	\$829,756	13
Des Moines #2	\$252,849	5
Oakland	\$169,870	1
Webster City	\$156,893	4
Cedar County	\$2,492,685	24
Vinton	\$2,179,800	29
Olin	\$181,031	5
Davenport	\$701,775	5
Muscatine County	\$1,091,516	13
Elkader	\$2,760,982	29
Mason City #1	\$312,336	1
Mason City #2	\$133,600	2
Mason City #4	\$6,163,989	75

For more information on the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, visit www.iowahomelandsecurity.org and click on the Iowa Disaster Recovery 2008 link in the Quick Links section. Ω

Public Information Officer Course Offered

The G-290 Public Information Officer course will be held at Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge Aug. 18-19.

This course assists participants with building the skills needed to be a full or part-time public information officer. The course is comprised of a blend of content from experts in the public information field, FEMA, individual and small group activities, and discussion about working with the media.

To register for this free class, contact Lindsay Bollard at the Homeland Security Training Center bollard@iowacentral.com or 515.574.1263. Ω

Critical Infrastructure/Key Resource Training in August

Critical Infrastructure and Key Resource Asset Protection Technical Assistance Program (CAPTAP) training will be held Aug. 25-28 2009, at Southwestern Community College in Creston, Iowa.

The CAPTAP training will provide attendees with information about the Critical Infrastructure/Key Resource (CI/KR) Protection Program, vulnerability assessment, terrorist surveillance operations, CI/KR target hardening strategies, and methodologies for conducting assessments including use of Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS). CAPTAP is designed to facilitate the development, implementation and/or operation of a CI/KR protection program among multiple agencies, including law enforcement, fire departments, emergency management and homeland security.

Targeted personnel include: analysts, assessors, incident planners, executive managers, law enforcement, fire and emergency management/homeland security personnel.

There is no cost to attend this training. Please register at: <http://hls.extension.iastate.edu/calendar/default.aspx>. Registration deadline is Aug. 10.

Additional information will be provided once registration is completed. Ω

HSEMD Offers Disaster Response Training to Safeguard Iowa Partnership Members

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management recently provided training to members of the Safeguard Iowa Partnership in an effort to ensure closer coordination with the private sector during emergencies and disasters.

In April, representatives from various business members of the Safeguard Iowa Partnership (SIP) participated in training at the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Johnston. Twenty private-sector partners received training about SEOC operations and the role they would play if called into a response operation.

“The Safeguard Iowa Partnership provides a direct link to identified private sector members,” said HSEMD Readiness and Response Bureau Chief Joyce Flinn. “This linkage makes it easier to access resources from these private sector partners when disaster events impact Iowa.”

The training will enable all partners who work in the SEOC on a state-wide response to understand the process of emergency management, to operate the tools HSEMD uses to respond and communicate, and to know their role in the process. Additional training is being provided by the Safeguard Iowa Partnership on specific job responsibilities while in the SEOC during an emergency activation.

The Safeguard Iowa Partnership, created in 2007, is a voluntary coalition of the state’s business and government leaders. The purpose of the SIP is to integrate business resources, expertise and response plans with those of government during all stages of disaster management.

Participants in the training included: Merit Resources, MidAmerican Energy, Principal Financial Group; Wal-Mart Stores, Wells Fargo, Conley Group, Vermeer Corporation, Iowa Health, EFCO, Waverly Health Center, and Federal Home Loan Bank.

For more information on the Safeguard Iowa Partnership, visit www.safeguardiowa.org. Ω



Special Needs Disaster Symposium Sept. 10

Everyone Survives II, a free symposium, will be held Sept. 10, 2009, at Hilton Garden Inn in Johnston, Iowa, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Who should attend: Anyone involved in planning for or responding to disasters and emergencies,

anyone with special needs who has an interest in emergency preparedness and response, or anyone who works with people with special needs who has an interest in strengthening Iowa’s ability to address special needs in preparing for and responding to disasters and emergencies.

For more information and to register for Everyone Survives II, visit the HSEMD Web site at www.iowahomelandsecurity.org and select the Special Needs Symposium link in the Quick Links section. A symposium agenda along with information on accommodations is also available at this location. 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

Des Moines County StormReady Certification Renewed

Recently Des Moines County had its StormReady community recognition renewed by the National Weather Service. The original certification was earned in July of 2006 and has now been extended until June of 2012 due to their efforts to improve and expand upon the current volunteer SKYWARN organization operation.

Des Moines County SKYWARN was organized in 2005 and is currently made of 39 individuals who volunteer their time, energy and resources to the county by storm spotting during potential and actual tornado or thunderstorm events that may impact the county and surrounding areas.

Des Moines County Emergency Management Coordinator Gina Hardin, who manages the SKYWARN organization, said, "These volunteers, along with members of some of the volunteer fire departments within the county, have participated in a number of activations so far in 2009 and put in hundreds of hours on a yearly basis including participating in weekly radio tests, monthly training classes and attending yearly required training. They are an incredible group of individuals who dedicate a tremendous amount of time and effort to ensure the citizens of Des Moines County

are given as much advance notice of potential or actual severe weather that has the potential to impact them. They are also providing the National Weather Service office with local information and storm data that can be used to warn and protect those in surrounding counties."

StormReady is a program aimed at arming America's communities with the communication and safety skills necessary to save lives and property. There are only nine StormReady counties within the state of Iowa and only 756 counties nation-wide.

Businesses, schools and other non-governmental entities often establish severe weather safety plans and actively take part and promote severe weather safety awareness activities. An entity that promotes the principles and guidelines of the StormReady program may be eligible to become a StormReady "Supporter."

For more information on the StormReady program visit www.storm-ready.noaa.gov.

Submitted by Des Moines County Emergency Management Coordinator Gina Hardin. Ω

HSEMD Staff Update

Dutch Geisinger is departing HSEMD to work as the Protective Security Advisor for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in the state of South Dakota. His last day will be July 31. Questions concerning the Threat Information & Protection Program and other projects with which Dutch was involved

may be directed to Curt Sullivan at 515.323.4217 or curt.sullivan@iowa.gov.

Lynn Zook has taken a position at the Rebuild Iowa Office and no longer works at HSEMD. Michelle Matthes is now the executive secretary to David Miller. Ω