



Cemetery Flooding Advisory

June 7, 2011

Attention Iowa County Medical Examiners, Funeral Directors and Cemetery Sextons!

Iowa's spring flooding is expected to be severe, especially along the western part of the state involving the Missouri River. River levels are expected to reach flood stage and preparations are already underway to prevent or minimize damage as a result of the impending flooding. This advisory will primarily affect Woodbury, Monona, Harrison, Pottawattamie, Mills and Fremont Counties.

The Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner is asking for your assistance in making sure local cemeteries where grave washout could occur due to advancing flood waters are monitored and protected. In some parts of the state, cemeteries that were impinged by flood waters a couple of years ago are at greater risk for washout with this year's flooding.

Cemetery records and plot maps should be stored in a dry and secure location away from any dangers of flooding. All maps of grave locations should be current and up-to-date. Areas where grave washout may occur should be watched closely and actions should be taken to protect the integrity of the endangered graves as best and as safely as possible.

And remember, your personal safety is important!

If you have any questions, please contact John Kraemer at (515) 725-1400. Please pass this information on to all those you feel would have a need to know. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

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