



## Assistance to Individuals, Businesses and Communities Tops \$17 Million

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### Free Legal Assistance Available

A toll-free legal aid hotline is available for survivors of recent storms and flooding in Iowa.

Those seeking assistance may call 877-775-8882, 24 hours a day. Survivors who qualify for assistance will be matched with Iowa lawyers who have volunteered to provide free help.

### Visit the Task Force Website

For more information on the Missouri River Recovery Coordination Task Force visit [www.MoRiverRecovery.iowa.gov](http://www.MoRiverRecovery.iowa.gov).

More than \$17 million in assistance has been approved for individuals, businesses and communities impacted by the Missouri River flooding.

### Assistance for Individuals and Businesses

As of Nov. 28, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved \$3.7 million in Individual Assistance funding for residents of Fre-

mont, Harrison, Mills, Monona and Pottawattamie counties. In addition, the Small Business Administration has approved \$1.3 million in home and business loans for impacted residents and businesses.

### Public Assistance

Just over \$12.8 million has been



**Photo taken in late November shows damaged roadway near Hamburg in Fremont County.**

obligated by FEMA for projects under the Public Assistance Programs. Projects funded under this program include repair of roads, bridges and other public infrastructure, along with emergency protective measures that were taken to prevent or mitigate damage from flood waters. ♦

## Dec. 19 is Deadline to Apply for Individual Assistance

Citizens in Monona, Harrison, Pottawattamie, Mills and Fremont counties must apply for FEMA Individual Assistance funding by Dec. 19, 2011.

Residents may apply by calling toll-free at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing- and speech-impaired. Residents may also apply online at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov),

[www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov), or via smartphone at [m.fema.gov](http://m.fema.gov).

Individual Assistance can provide homeowners, renters and businesses grants and low-interest loans to help pay for temporary housing, home repairs and other disaster-related expenses not covered by insurance or other programs. ♦

## Crisis Counseling Services Available Through Project Recovery Iowa

Project Recovery Iowa assists individuals and communities in recovering from the challenging effects of disaster through the provision of community-based outreach and counseling services.

Administered through the Iowa Department of Human Services, Project Recovery Iowa is a FEMA funded grant. The Department of Human Services has contracted with Heartland Family Services, Waubonsie Mental Health Center



and Iowa State University's Iowa Concern Hotline to operate Project Recovery Iowa services for residents in flood-impacted counties along the Missouri River.

Citizens may contact Project Recovery Iowa by calling the Iowa Concern Hotline at 1-800-447-1985. The website for additional information is [www.projectrecoveryiowa.com](http://www.projectrecoveryiowa.com).

Counseling through Project Recovery Iowa is free and confidential. ♦

## Southwest Iowa Recovery Network Makes Recovery Assistance Available

The Southwest Iowa Recovery Network (SWIRN) has made assistance available to families affected by the Missouri River flooding.

Residents affected by the 2011 flood event may receive as much as \$1,000 to assist with their recovery, although actual amounts will vary according to need. Applicants may also receive information and referral to other agencies and programs that may be able to provide recovery assistance.

Requests for financial assistance should fall into one of the following categories:

- Housing repairs due to flood damage
- Temporary housing for relocation after the flood
- Childcare during the immediate time after the flood due to relocation
- Personal items lost due to flooding, including transportation replacement or repairs due to flooding
- Mental health services
- Items needed to fight household flooding

FEMA registration is required prior to granting financial assistance. See page 1 for information on how to register with FEMA.

For more information and application instructions, visit <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/westpottawattamie/news/>. ♦

## Iowa Utilities Board Posts Photos from Recent Tour of Flood-Damaged Areas

Available at <http://iub.iowa.gov>, the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) has posted many of its photos from an Oct. 26, 2011, State Interagency Missouri River Authority (SIMRA) tour of Missouri River flood-damaged areas near Hamburg.



**Damaged silos southwest of Hamburg in Fremont County. Photo from IUB website.**

The tour included local farmers and the Army Corps of Engineers as well as SIMRA representatives from the IUB, Iowa Economic Development Authority, Iowa Department of Transportation, Iowa De-

partment of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Additional photos of the area are available from the IUB upon request. ♦

## State and Federal Assistance Available for Agriculture Losses

Agriculture producers who sustained damage from the flooding of the Missouri River may be eligible for assistance.

*USDA Secretarial Designation*  
The United States Department of Agriculture granted a disaster designation for 60 counties for disaster-related damage in 2011.

Assistance is available through the Farm Service Agency (FSA), including emergency loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program.

Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the Oct. 12, 2011, designation to apply for emergency loan assistance. SURE Program applications for 2011 crop losses will be accepted in 2012.

More information can be obtained through local FSA offices.

*Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship*  
Iowa's Secretary of Agriculture announced the availability of \$360,000 to help repair conservation practices damaged by storm events during the 2011 crop year.

Funding is available in 60 counties that were granted disaster designation by the USDA.

The deadline to apply for the repair funding is Dec. 30, 2011, and all repairs must be completed by June 30, 2012.

Contact a local Soil and Water Conservation Office for more information. ♦

## Woodbury County Flood Survivors May Be Eligible for Rental Assistance

The Community Action Agency of Siouxland is currently accepting applications from residents of Woodbury County who may be at-risk of homelessness. The assistance is available through the Iowa Rental Help program, which is the federal Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing program created as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Types of eligible assistance may include: case management,

short-term rent and utility subsidy, hotel/motel vouchers to be used if adequate housing is not immediately available, housing search and placement assistance, storage costs and security deposit assistance. Qualified applicants may earn no more than 50 percent of the Area Median Income, which in Woodbury County is \$58,800

Contact: the Community Action Agency of Siouxland: 800- 352-3725 ext. 216. ♦

Missouri River Recovery  
Coordination Task Force

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Questions or comments may be directed to:  
**MoRiverRecovery@iowa.gov.**

