



# Secure & Prepared

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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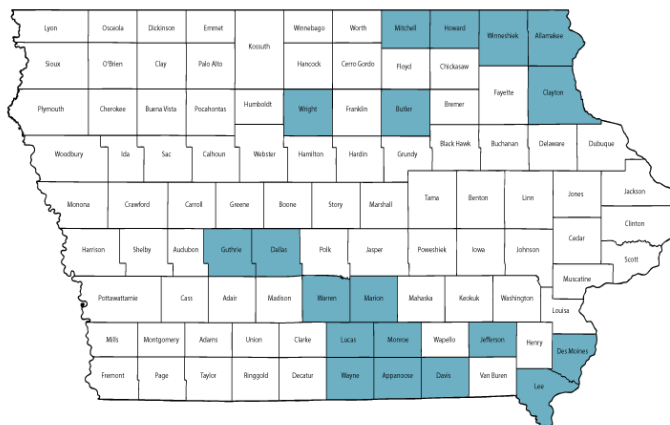
August 2015

## Iowa receives Presidential Disaster Declaration

*Governor Branstad issues disaster proclamation for four counties*

On Aug. 3, Governor Terry E. Branstad announced his request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration for 19 Iowa counties had been approved.

The declaration covers damage that was caused by damaging winds, tornadoes, heavy rains, hail and thunderstorms from June 20-25. The counties included in the declaration are: Allamakee, Appanoose, Butler, Clayton, Dallas, Davis, Des Moines, Guthrie, Howard, Jefferson, Lee, Lucas, Marion, Mitchell, Monroe, Warren, Wayne, Winnebago and Wright.



ard mitigation projects throughout the state to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects.

Also on Aug. 3 the governor issued a proclamation of disaster emergency for Guthrie, Marion, Union and Warren counties for ongoing flooding and severe weather that began July 26.

For more information on Iowa disasters, visit [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov). Ω

The declaration provides federal funding under the Public Assistance program, which may be used for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities.

In addition, the declaration includes funding to conduct haz-

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## Adair and Guthrie County LEPCs receive awards for community contributions

The Adair and Guthrie County Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) were recently presented with two awards to recognize the contributions they have made to their communities.

The Small LEPC Award recognizes outstanding achievement in planning, prevention and risk reduction in the community. The Social Media Award recognizes the use of social media in risk reduction and prevention.

The Adair and Guthrie County groups have been active for many years conducting training and planning for hazardous materials and other natural hazards. Both counties use social media for every-day engagement with the communities. Adair/Guthrie County Emergency Management Coordinator Robert Kempf manages social media for the two LEPCs.



**Representatives of the Adair and Guthrie County LEPCs along with Robert Kempf, emergency management coordinator for the counties, proudly display recently-won awards.**

The awards were given at the recent Region 7 Local Emergency Planning Committee/Tribal Emergency Response Commission conference. Ω

**Submitted by Adair/Guthrie County Emergency Manager Robert Kempf**

## September is Preparedness Month

September is Preparedness Month, an opportunity to remind Iowans of the importance of being prepared for emergencies and disasters. You and your family can be more prepared by taking these easy steps:

**Step 1: Build a kit.** During an emergency, there are items you and your family will need. Make an emergency supply kit and keep it in a place where it will be easy to grab if you need to quickly leave home.

**Step 2: Make a plan.** You and your family may not be together when

an emergency happens, so knowing what to do, where you will go, and how to get in touch with each other is important. Put together a family emergency plan and practice it.

**Step 3: Be aware.** When bad weather is in the forecast, pay attention to the news, sign up for alerts for your mobile phone, and use your NOAA weather radio to receive weather and other emergency alerts. Another great tool is Alert Iowa, which will send notifications of severe weather in a variety

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## Des Moines County StormReady certified until 2018

The National Weather Service (NWS) recently notified the Des Moines County Emergency Management Agency that its StormReady recognition has been renewed for another three years. The NWS originally recognized the county in July of 2006 and due to the county's ongoing efforts the NWS has extended the recognition until 2018.

According to Donna Dubberke, chairperson of the Tri-State StormReady Advisory Board, "Achieving and maintaining StormReady recognition is a significant accomplishment, and demonstrates a long-term commitment to preparing for all kinds of severe weather and saving lives, both locally and as a part of the complete warning process. The numerous improvements since the original recognition demonstrate your exceptional commitment to the safety of residents, visitors, and neighbors of Des Moines County. In particular, the Des Moines County SKYWARN group has become a cornerstone of the community-NWS partnership during severe weather and one of the top programs of its kind in the region."

Des Moines County SKYWARN was organized in 2005 and is currently celebrating its 10th year with a volunteer recognition ceremony later this month. The team is composed of 38 individuals who

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# Training opportunities

## Rapid Needs Assessment (G557)

**When:** Sept. 3, 2015  
9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Where:** Wapello County EOC  
330 W. Second St.  
Ottumwa

**Target audience:** Local elected officials, emergency management professionals, public works employees, fire personnel, law enforcement personnel.

This course teaches government officials how to perform a rapid-needs assessment accurately and in a timely manner.

**To register,** visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or [beth.lewis@iowa.gov](mailto:beth.lewis@iowa.gov) or **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3243** or [cristie.duric@iowa.gov](mailto:cristie.duric@iowa.gov) with any questions.

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## Natural Disaster Awareness for Security Professionals (AWR-322)

**When:** Sept. 15, 2015  
9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Where:** Hazardous Materials  
Regional Trng. Cntr.  
1925 Newell St.  
Waterloo

**When:** Sept. 17, 2015  
9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Where:** Iowa Central Community  
College  
1 Triton Circle-Triton Cafe  
Conf. Room  
Ft. Dodge

**Target audience:** Security professionals, public and private businesses, first responders.

This course will enhance the ability of security professionals to prepare for and plan to react immediately in the event of a natural disaster to meet the disaster response and recovery needs of their facility.

**To register,** visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or [beth.lewis@iowa.gov](mailto:beth.lewis@iowa.gov) or **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3243** or [cristie.duric@iowa.gov](mailto:cristie.duric@iowa.gov) with any questions.

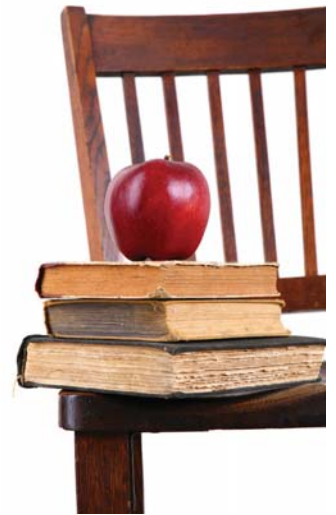
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## EOC Operations and Planning for All Hazards (MGT-346)

**When:** Sept. 22-24, 2015  
Time TBA

**Where:** Polk County EOC  
1907 Carpenter Ave.  
Des Moines

**Target audience:** Law enforcement, EMS, emergency management, fire service, government administrative, public safety communications, health care, public health, hazmat,



public works, non-governmental organizations.

This three-day course focuses on the core functions, processes, and best practices necessary to ensure effective and repeatable performance of an emergency operations center at any level.

For more information, contact **Jory Grassinger** with TEEX at **979.458.5620**, **855.245.1614** (toll free) or [jory.grassinger@teex.tamu.edu](mailto:jory.grassinger@teex.tamu.edu), or **A.J. Mumm** with Polk County EMA at **515.286.2107** or [aj.mumm@polkcountyiowa.gov](mailto:aj.mumm@polkcountyiowa.gov).

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## Training opportunities

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### Integrated Warning Team workshop

**When:** Sept. 29, 2015  
Time TBA  
**Where:** Luther College  
Decorah

The La Crosse National Weather Service (NWS) is hosting a series of workshops in September about Integrated Warning Teams. An Integrated Warning Team (IWT) is a group of partners who share ideas, build relationships, improve services, and integrate social science into operations.

If you would like to know more, please contact **Peter Rogers** at [peter.rogers@noaa.gov](mailto:peter.rogers@noaa.gov) or **Todd Shea** at [todd.shea@noaa.gov](mailto:todd.shea@noaa.gov).

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### HSEEP (L0146)

**When:** Oct. 1–2, 2015  
8 a.m.–5 p.m.  
**Where:** TBA

**Target audience:** Emergency managers, law enforcement, EMS, fire services, government administration, health care, public health, public safety communications.

This intermediate-level course provides a comprehensive overview of HSEEP concepts. Participants will learn exercise management, design

and development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning.

**To register,** visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or [beth.lewis@iowa.gov](mailto:beth.lewis@iowa.gov) or **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3243** or [cristie.duric@iowa.gov](mailto:cristie.duric@iowa.gov) with questions.

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### Essentials of Community Cybersecurity

**When:** Oct. 19, 2015  
9 a.m.–3 p.m.  
**Where:** Vet's Auditorium at  
CCCU Convention Center  
833 Fifth St.  
Des Moines

**Target audience:** Those involved with critical infrastructure, emergency operations, public/private organizations, industries, chambers of commerce, and government officials.

This course provides information for individuals, community leaders, and first responders on how cyber attacks can impact, prevent, and/or stop operations in emergency responses.

**To register,** visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or [beth.lewis@iowa.gov](mailto:beth.lewis@iowa.gov).

**gov** or **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3243** or [cristie.duric@iowa.gov](mailto:cristie.duric@iowa.gov) with questions.

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### TEEX courses available

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) is offering several courses at no cost to jurisdictions. All courses are fully funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The following courses are being offered:

- Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Awareness (AWR-213)
- Jurisdictional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (MGT-310)
- Critical Asset Risk Management (MGT-315)
- Advanced Critical Infrastructure Protection (MGT-414)

TEEX is also offering an Infrastructure Protection Master Certificate Program.

For more information visit [www.teex.org](http://www.teex.org). To schedule a course, please contact **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3243** or [cristie.duric@iowa.gov](mailto:cristie.duric@iowa.gov).



## HSEMD staff tour Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station

Radiological Emergency Preparedness program staff from the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, HSEMD Director Mark Schouten, along with representatives from the Clinton County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), were recently provided an in-depth tour of the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station (QCNS) in Cordova, Ill.

The tour included a radiation protection and safety briefing (note the hard hats, goggles and personal dosimeters), visit to the main control room, spent fuel pool, and technical support center.

HSEMD's Kathy Stodola said the tour reinforced the department's professional relationships while providing a common framework of the facilities for emergency preparedness. Ω



**Above, QCNS tour participants from left; Amanda Pearson, Clinton County EMA; Joyce Flinn and Kathy Stodola, HSEMD; Bill Stoermer, QCNS; Mark Schouten, HSEMD; Kathleen Ball and Jerry DeYoung, QCNS; Jake Nicholson, HSEMD; Howard Payson and Burt Simmons, Clinton County EMA; and Gary Buckley and Johnna Cortopassi, QCNS.**



**AT right, HSEMD Director Mark Schouten with Johnna Cortopassi, QCNS.**

## Des Moines County StormReady certification

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volunteer their time, energy, and personal equipment and resources to the county by storm spotting during potential and actual severe weather events that may impact the county and surrounding areas.

Gina Hardin, Des Moines County emergency management coordinator who manages the SKYWARN organization said, "We are one of only 14 other counties within the state to receive this recognition. We could not have received and maintained this recognition without the dedicated Des Moines County SKYWARN volunteers in addition to the members of the county volun-

teer fire departments and amateur radio operators. These individuals stand ready to observe the current weather conditions and provide ground-truth weather reports to the National Weather Service. These real-time reports are then used by the NWS in their weather reporting products to warn others in the path of the storm of the severe weather threat."

StormReady is a program aimed at arming America's communities with the communication and safety skills necessary to save lives and protect property. With 98 percent of all presidential declared disas-

ters being weather-related, leading to around 500 deaths per year and nearly \$15 billion in damage, this program was designed to help American's communities guard against the ravages of severe weather. StormReady communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through advanced planning, education and awareness. No community is storm-proof, but StormReady can help communities save lives. For more information on the StormReady program visit [www.stormready.noaa.gov](http://www.stormready.noaa.gov). Ω

**Submitted by Des Moines County Emergency Manager Gina Hardin**

## 12th Annual Iowa Homeland Security Conference

The 12th Annual Iowa Homeland Security Conference, sponsored by HSEMD, will be held Oct. 20-21, 2015.

This year's conference will be held at the Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center at Veteran's Memorial, 833 Fifth Ave., Des Moines.

As in past years, the conference will feature a variety of speakers and opportunities to network with colleagues.

In addition to the conference, a free pre-conference cybersecurity

training will be offered Oct. 19.

Early-bird registration is \$160. After Oct. 1, registration will be \$185. Parking fees are included with each paid registration, except for walk-ins.

Visit the conference website to register at [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov) and click on the conference logo on the lower left of the home page. For more information, contact **Cristie Duric** or **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3231** or **HSEMDconf@iowa.gov**. 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.

**Secure & Prepared** is published for those involved in the homeland security/emergency management system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact Stefanie Bond at [stefanie.bond@iowa.gov](mailto:stefanie.bond@iowa.gov).

### NEWS TEAM

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## Preparedness Month

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of ways, including via your mobile or home phone (learn more about Alert Iowa at [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov)).

Preparedness Month is an opportunity to ensure all members of your family are prepared, including kids, the elderly and pets. To learn more about preparedness, visit [www.beready.iowa.gov](http://www.beready.iowa.gov).

Iowa's Preparedness Month is held in conjunction with National Preparedness Month, which was created by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in response to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, in an effort to educate the public on how to prepare for emergencies and disasters. Ω

### ON THE CALENDAR:

#### SEPTEMBER

- National Preparedness Month
- Labor Day (7)\*
- Patriot Day (11)
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#### OCTOBER

- Cyber-Security Awareness Month
- Crime Prevention Month
- National Fire Prevention Week (4-10)
- America's Safe Schools Week (19-23)

*\*State holiday. HSEMD offices will be closed.*