



SECURE & PREPARED

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Special points of interest:

- The deadline for submitting FY08 Homeland Security Grant applications is January 31, 2008. See page 2.
- Iowa First Responders will receive over \$800,000 in CEDAP funding for equipment and training. See article on page 3.
- Hands-on training for transportation emergencies will return to Iowa in April 2008 via the Transcaer® Ethanol Training Tour. See article on page 7.

Holiday Closure

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division offices will be closed on January 21 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Iowa Receives Presidential Disaster Declaration for December Ice Storm

On January 4, 2008, Iowa received a Presidential Disaster Declaration as a result of the ice and snow storms that affected southern and eastern Iowa in early December.

“The storms that affected parts of Iowa earlier this month impacted thousands of people, and it will take months to fully recover from the damage,” said Governor Culver.

“Though state and local emergency management officials have done an outstanding job in responding to the challenges this storm brought, the severity

and magnitude is too great for us to handle alone. That is why I called on President Bush to approve this disaster declaration, which will help speed the recovery process and return life in southern Iowa to normal.”

The Governor requested and received federal public assistance funding for the following 30 counties: Adair, Adams, Appanoose, Cedar, Clarke, Clinton, Davis, Decatur, Fremont, Iowa, Jefferson, Johnson, Jones, Keokuk, Linn, Lucas, Madison, Mahaska, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Page, Ringgold, Taylor, Union, Van Buren, Wapello, Warren, Washington, and Wayne. The public assistance program is designed to help public and certain non-profit organizations rebuild damaged infrastructure that may include roads, bridges, culverts, and other public facilities. Emergency work of clearing the ice and snow is also included. Preliminary damage assessments for potential eligible expenses under the federal program were set at \$16.5 million.

Please note that this preliminary estimate is only for damages covered by federal programs. Actual damages are much higher. Additional counties can be added to the declaration request as warranted. *Continued on page 2.*



Above, an Alliant Energy employee works to restore power near Centerville following the December 10th ice storm. At left, ice brings down a power line in Cedar Rapids...one of many downed power lines following the storm. *Photos courtesy of Alliant Energy*

Iowa Receives Presidential Disaster Declaration

Continued from page 1

In addition, the 30 counties mentioned above are under a Governor's Proclamation. The proclamation allows state resources to assist local communities affected by the storm at no cost. It also opened Iowa's new individual disaster assistance program for people in those counties with low incomes. Iowans with household incomes of up to 130 percent of federal poverty guidelines may apply for a grant of up to \$3,300 to help recover from these storms. This is a reimbursement program, which means applicants must include receipts when applying for help.

The grant application and step-by-step instructions can be found on the front page of the Department of Human Services Web site at www.dhs.iowa.gov. Look for the words "Storm Help." Or, individuals can call toll-free (877) 937-3663. Damages to individual Iowans were not high enough to warrant a request for the federal Individual Assistance program.

For more information concerning public assistance, visit www.iowahomelandsecurity.org and click on the ice storm link at the top of the page.

Ice Storm Victims: Be Wary Of Contractor Promises

Lt. Governor Patty Judge and Attorney General Tom Miller urged Iowans who were affected by the December 10 ice storm to use caution when selecting a contractor to help repair damages. The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division received reports that vendors are approaching county and city governments with promises that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will cover their costs.

Some vendors have also told residents that FEMA will reimburse them for the cost of a generator or for their work in removing storm debris from private property. Officials emphasized that while there is a program to reimburse costs for the most needy Iowans, there is not a program to cover these costs for most Iowans.

"While emergencies like December's ice storms often bring out the best in people, sometimes it brings out the worst," said Lieutenant Governor Patty Judge. "Most contractors are working within the law and want to help Iowans. Unfortunately, there are a few individuals out there who are trying to make a profit on the backs of those most in need during the recovery effort."

Contractors have claimed to be "FEMA certified," but FEMA does not endorse or recommend any private business.

If you have been approached by someone claiming they are "FEMA certified" to remove debris, or claims that a generator will be reimbursed by FEMA, you should contact your local law enforcement officials or the Iowa Attorney General Consumer Hotline at 888-777-4590, or, in Des Moines, call 281-5926. For more information regarding tree and storm debris removal, visit the Attorney General's Web site at www.state.ia.us/government/ag/consumer/advisories/tree_trim.html.

HSGP Project Application Deadline Approaching

Any entity looking for funding from the FY08 Homeland Security Grant Fund this year, don't forget to participate in the FY08 HSGP application process. Only projects that participate in this process will be considered for inclusion in the FY08 Investment Justification.

The deadline for submitting applications is **January 31, 2008**. Application materials and the instruction packet can be found at <http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org>. If you have any questions, please contact Kyle Karsjen at 515-725-3231 or at kyle.karsjen@iowa.gov.

Iowa First Responders Awarded Over \$800,000

On December 21, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the award of \$33.7 million to fund equipment and training for first responders across the nation as a part of the fiscal year 2007 Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP). Iowa will receive \$800,198.64. Of the 92 applications HSEMD received for this year's program, 47 received awards.

Since the program's inception in 2005, DHS has provided roughly 5,800 direct assistance awards worth more than \$103 million for all hazards in smaller jurisdictions nationwide.

Eligibility for CEDAP is limited to law enforcement and other emergency responder agencies with specific financial and capability needs in five categories: personal protective equipment; thermal imaging, night vision and video surveillance tools; chemical and biological detection tools; information technology and risk management tools; and interoperable communications equipment.

CEDAP equipment awards are integrated with state planning processes for regional response and asset distribution. Each state's administrative agency has the opportunity to review applications submitted by first responder organizations within their state to ensure that equipment requests are consistent with their state homeland security strategy.

Iowa Agencies Receiving CEDAP Awards

Carroll County Emergency Management Agency
Carroll County Sheriff's Office
Cedar Falls Police Department
Charles City Police Department
Cherokee County Sheriff's Office
Cherokee Fire Department
Chickasaw County Sheriff's Office
Bettendorf Police Department
Johnston Police Department
Maquoketa Police Department
Tripoli Police Department
Clay County Sheriff's Office
Clear Lake Police Department
Clinton Police Department
Coralville Police Department
Creston Police Department
Davenport Fire Department
Delaware County Sheriff's Office
Dickinson County Emergency Management
Eastern Iowa Airport Police and Fire
Fort Dodge Police Department
Fremont County Sheriff's Office
Guthrie Center Police Department
Guttenberg Police Department

Guttenberg Police Department
Harlan Police Department
Henry County Emergency Management
Indian Hills Community College
Iowa Falls Police Department
Jackson County Sheriff's Office
Johnson County Sheriff's Office
Linn County Sheriff's Office
Mar-Mac Unified Law Enforcement District
Mitchellville Police Department
Muscatine County Sheriff's Office
Oelwein Police Department
Osceola County Sheriff's Office
Region V Hazardous Materials Response Team
Remsen Police Department
Ringgold County Sheriff's Office
Scott County Sheriff's Office
Sheldon Police Department
Story County Sheriff's Office
Wapello Fire and Rescue
Washington County Emergency Management
Webster County Sheriff's Office
Williamsburg Police Department
Winneshiek County Sheriff's Office

Mass Fatality Planning for Hospitals

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division is partnering with the Iowa Department of Public Health's Center for Disaster Operations and Response and the Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner to provide information involving mass fatality planning for hospitals. An initial informational session will be provided via the ICN, Telemedicine, and via Webcast regarding *Mass Fatality Planning for Hospitals* on January 16 from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Presenters will include representatives from the State Medical Examiner's Office, IDPH; Readiness & Response Bureau, HSEMD; and the Iowa Funeral Director's Association. Program objectives will include:

- Describing Iowa's medico legal system
- Defining the role of state and county medical examiners during a mass fatality event
- Defining hospital mass fatality planning
- Discussing supply and equipment needs

To register, visit www.prepareiowa.com. A list of ICN sites and the Webcast url will be provided after successful registration for the broadcast. For general program questions, contact DeAnne Sesker at 515-242-5037 or deanne.sesker@idph.state.ia.us. Registration questions should be directed to Sandra Lyles at 515-242-5165 or slyles@idph.state.ia.us.

DNR Announces New Database for Tier 2 Reporting

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has purchased a software application to assist facilities with Tier 2 chemical inventory reporting submissions. Legislation passed during the 2007 session transferred the Tier 2 program to the DNR from Iowa Workforce Development. The two agencies are working closely together to ensure a smooth transition.

This software will allow facility managers to keep a historical record of their submissions and make changes to the facility information at anytime throughout the year. In addition, the data from the 2006 submission will be pre-loaded into the system.

"We are excited about this new system as it will make reporting easier and more efficient for facilities," said Elonda Bacon, DNR Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Coordinator.

Each facility coordinator that submitted 2006 data will receive a letter notifying them about the new system, updated contact and Web site information. The system will be ready for use on January 21. Consultants who prepare reports for multiple businesses are encouraged to e-mail a list to DNR with the facility name, location, and facility ID number if known.

For more information, contact Elonda Bacon at 515-725-0302 or visit www.iowadnr.gov/epcra/

It's Not Too Late: Resolve to Be Ready in 2008!

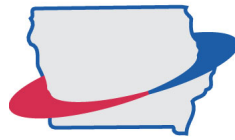
HSEMD is encouraging all Iowans to make a resolution that is both important and easy to keep: preparing for emergencies.

Taking some simple steps to prepare now can help protect you and your family in the event of an emergency. For more information visit www.BeReadyIowa.org.



What is the Safeguard Iowa Partnership?

The Safeguard Iowa Partnership is a coalition of the state's business and government leaders that are combining their efforts to strengthen the state's collective capacity to prevent, protect, respond to and recover from natural and human-caused disasters through effective public-private collaboration. Safeguard Iowa is a statewide organization intended to help business of all sizes connect with their local responders.



SAFEGUARD
IOWA
PARTNERSHIP

The partnership serves to integrate business resources, expertise and response plans with those of government during all stages of disaster preparedness and recovery to ensure safe, resilient communities for the residents and businesses of Iowa. Government is not, nor should it be, the only responders in a disaster situation. The private sector has a wealth of knowledge and assets that may be needed during an emergency.

The Safeguard Iowa Partnership has identified four key initiatives:

1) Establishment of a business resource registry: A primary program element of the partnership is the development of a Web-based resource registry of private-sector assets and capabilities, which could be utilized during a crisis. In an emergency, responding state and local agencies must identify surge assets quickly. Since an estimated 85% of these needed resources are available only from the private sector, a registry of business assets is essential in reducing response time, saving lives and speeding economic recovery.

2) Business participation in the state emergency operations center: To ensure the continuation of community activities and restoration of critical infrastructure services, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) will include participation from the private sector. Private-sector participation at the SEOC supports the state's ability to respond to disasters by facilitating voluntary collaboration and information sharing among the public and private sectors. The goal is to mitigate the impact of a disaster upon the state, its population and its critical infrastructure.

3) Partnership with state and local public health: Best practices have shown that communication is vital to the success of any response. The state currently uses the Iowa Health Alert Network (HAN) as their alert notification system to contact all local public health, county emergency management coordinators, hospitals, laboratories and state government officials in the event of an emergency. Safeguard Iowa has adopted this technology to include the private sector for notifications.

In addition to the HAN, the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) is a secure Web-based communications system owned and operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and has been designated as the nation's primary homeland security information sharing system. The state has sponsored a Safeguard Iowa Partnership portal on the HSIN to provide centralized access to information and resources concerning emergency preparedness and homeland security in Iowa.

4) Safeguard Iowa Partnership development and public outreach: Safeguard Iowa's organizational structure includes an: **Advisory Council** comprised of Iowa Business Council leadership; **Executive Committee** comprised of Safeguard Iowa Partnership operating council co-chairs, public-sector leadership; team leaders for the four initiatives, Iowa Business Council executive director and the Safeguard Iowa Partnership executive director; **Operating Council** comprised of public-sector representatives, Iowa Business Council members, regional public- and private-sector representatives, and statewide security and safety association representatives; **Initiative Teams** comprised of partners of Safeguard Iowa; and **Regional Committees** comprised of regional public health, health care, public safety, emergency management and private sector representatives.

To date, the partnership includes over 27 private-sector organizations and eight public-sector entities. Look for more information in the coming months on how you can participate in the Safeguard Iowa Partnership. Contact sip@safeguardiowa.org or visit the Web site at www.safeguardiowa.org.

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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

Ethanol Spill Training Coming to Iowa

Hands-on training for transportation emergencies will return to Iowa in April 2008. The Iowa Transcaer® Ethanol Training Tour is scheduled to begin in Burlington on April 12 and finish in Dubuque on May 10. The tour will provide hands-on training using actual rail and truck equipment, focusing on ethanol. Registration may be completed via a Web site hosted on the Iowa Department of Natural Resources home page around February 1. A link will also be available via HSEMD's Web site.



Limited funding for mileage and applicable meals will be available for public sector first responders traveling more than 50 miles. This funding must be approved prior to attending the training on a first come/first serve basis. Funding requests must be submitted to HSEMD's Lisa Sexton by April 9, 2008 for all tour stops.

"We are excited about bringing this training program to emergency responders across the state," said Rodney Tucker, Iowa Transcaer® state coordinator. "With ethanol being a major commodity in Iowa, we feel it is important to be able to respond to environmental incidents including ethanol."

"This program will provide the information and guidance responders and community leaders need to manage and contain hazardous materials incidents and safely restore transportation and other essential services," Tucker said.

This will be the second recent training tour to come to Iowa to train emergency responders on transportation-related incidents. Iowa hosted a training tour in October 2005 that stopped at seven major Iowa cities. That tour was based on general rail and highway hazmat incidents. The 2008 tour will focus on the ethanol transportation industry.

The tour schedule is as follows:

Burlington	April 12th
Creston	April 15th
Red Oak	April 19th
Sioux City	April 23rd
Storm Lake	April 26th
Ft. Dodge	April 29th
Waterloo	May 3rd – 5th
Dubuque	May 8th – 10th

For more information, visit www.transcaer.org or contact Rodney Tucker at 515-725-0387 or at rodney.tucker@dnr.iowa.gov. To request approval for funding to attend the training, contact Lisa Sexton at 515-725-3213 or at lisa.sexton@iowa.gov.

Personnel Notes

Aimee Berg has joined HSEMD as a budget analyst for the Grants Bureau. For the past five months Aimee has been working on public assistance/disaster recovery operations for the Division.

We're on the Web!

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org