



SECURE & PREPARED

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Important Resources

2008 Flood Resource Center
www.flood2008.iowa.gov

Apply for assistance
FEMA Registration
1.800.621.3362

Volunteer
Iowa Concern Hotline
1.800.447.1985

www.flood2008.iowa.gov
(*Volunteer Opportunities* link in navigation box)

Donate
Embrace Iowa 515.447.4222

Safeguard Iowa Partnership
www.flood2008.iowa.gov
(*Donations* link in navigation box)

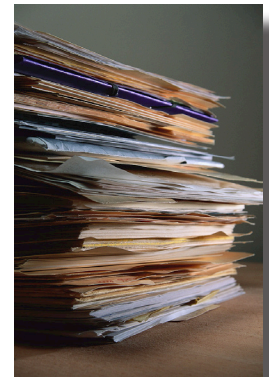
Deadline to Apply for Assistance Approaches

Individuals impacted by this spring's tornadoes and flooding have just a few days to register for federal disaster assistance.

Oct. 31 is the deadline to register for Individual Assistance, which includes assistance for temporary disaster housing and for the repair of disaster-damaged homes, returning them to livable condition. Residents may also be eligible for Other Needs Assistance programs for serious, disaster-related needs and expenses not covered by insurance or other assistance programs. Homeowners,

renters, private non-profit organizations and businesses of all sizes may also be eligible for low-interest disaster loans from the Small Business Administration.

For information on how to register via telephone or on the FEMA Web site, see the box on page 4. Ω



Disaster Funding Exceeds \$775 Million

More than \$775 Million in disaster aid has been approved for Iowa homeowners, renters, businesses, and government and non-profit entities affected by this spring's flooding and tornadoes.

As of Oct. 27, \$775 million had been approved in the following categories:

Housing Assistance: \$116.7 million

Other Needs Assistance: \$15.6 million

Small Business Administration Loans: \$243.2 million

Public Assistance Obligated: \$400.2 million

Seventy-eight counties were designated for Individual Assistance (For more information on the Individual Assistance program, see the story above).

Eighty-four counties have been designated for Public Assistance. Public Assistance funds pay the approved cost of debris removal, emergency services related to the disaster and repairing or replacing damaged public facilities, such as roads, buildings and utilities. Ω

The Difference We Make

David L. Miller, HSEMD Administrator



The Greek King Sisyphus was cursed to roll a huge boulder up a hill, only to watch it roll down again and to repeat this through eternity. I don't know about you but sometimes I feel like Sisyphus in terms of the work yet to do as we continue the recovery process from the worst storms to ever hit this state. It is too easy to look at the road ahead and question our ability to get the job done. Now I know that is a depressing way to start a column but hang with me for a second here.

Instead of looking ahead, I'd like each of you to take a minute and look back at the road we've traveled and the hills we have already climbed.

- We had unprecedented coordination between local, state and federal response agencies. Over 38,000 lowans were successfully evacuated, millions of sandbags were deployed and used to mitigate property damages and as a response community we stood up to the greatest challenge we have ever faced. And here's the main point, through our hard work, fatalities and injuries were kept to a minimum.
- While still in a flood fight in the southern parts of Iowa, together, we made a quick transition to recovery in northern areas.
- We've now transitioned completely and have moved to quickly help our fellow citizens begin the long recovery process. Thousands of volunteers jumped in to pick up debris from tornados and

muck out homes hit by floods. More than \$775 million in FEMA aid has been pumped into the state combined with \$85 million from HUD and \$40 million in state dollars under Jumpstart. Long term recovery teams are engaging the hardest hit communities while local, state and federal officials are working to bring back business and ensure necessary services continue to be offered.

That is a very quick snapshot of the challenges we have faced and overcome. All this has been accomplished because of the dedication and hard work of each of you. Individually and collectively we have had, and will continue to make, a tremendous positive difference for our cities, counties and the state.

Thank you for all you have done. Your work is important and has a major impact on the future of your communities and our state. We will proceed down the recovery road and together we will make our state safer and stronger. Remember the good work that you've done and its importance for your communities. You do make a difference and your work is appreciated. Ω

Application Process for Grant Program Begins

Iowa HSEMD has begun the rollout of the the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program (EMPG) for the 2009 federal fiscal year. County emergency management coordinators interested in applying for the FFY 2009 program should attend one of the meetings to find out about changes/requirements for the program. If you cannot attend on the date scheduled for your region then you may attend other scheduled meetings in a different region. The meeting schedule and locations are as follows:

Region 1

Thu., Nov. 6, 10 a.m.
Newton Speedway

Contact: Barry Halling (Dallas)
515.993.2134

Liz Manion (Polk)
515.382.7229

A.J. Mumm (Polk)
515.286.2107

Region 2

Tue., Nov. 4, 10 a.m.
Mason City Police Department

Contact: Kip Ladage (Bremer)
319.352.0133

Steve Ulrichs (Butler)
319.267.9967

Region 3

Meeting was held Oct. 9

Contact: Gary Brown (Woodbury)
712.876.2212

Aimee Barritt (Cherokee)
712.225.6721

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Upcoming Training Opportunities

Weapons of Mass Destruction: Threat and Risk Assessment (MGT-310 TEEX)

This planning/management-level course prepares emergency responder managers and community leaders to conduct comprehensive, capabilities-based threat and risk assessment for weapons of mass destruction (WMD) terrorism/all-hazards incidents under the National Response Plan and Presidential Directives. Participants' activities focus on the jurisdictional process for determining ability to respond to CBRNE/All Hazard events and the development of the needs assessment to fill gaps identified within the solution areas. The assessment incorporates the State Homeland Security and Strategy (SHSAS) processes.

The course is taught by the Texas Engineering Extension Service (www.teex.com).

There is NO FEE for this course. Lodging, travel and meals are the responsibility of the course participant.

When: Dec. 2–4
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Where: Hiawatha Fire Dept.
60 10th Avenue
Hiawatha, IA 52233

To register, visit www.hiawathafire.com.

For more information, contact the Hiawatha Fire Department at **319.393.4180** or training@hiawathafire.com.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

CERT, Community Emergency Response Team, is a 20-hour course designed to give basic knowledge in several important emergency response areas to citizens. The idea behind CERT is that basic knowledge by people who may be at the scene of an incident can save lives. If a major event occurs, first responders – police, fire, EMS – may be overwhelmed or cut off from getting to densely populated areas.

In this situation, CERT training is ideal. CERT gives basic knowledge in the following skill areas:

- Basic First Aid
- Basic Triage
- Proper Carrying/Moving of the Injured
- Search and Rescue Techniques
- Disaster Psychology
- Emergency Organization
- Incident Command System (ICS)

When: Oct. 29-31

Training will take place on Oct. 29-30 from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. (lunch provided both days) and continue on Oct. 31 from 8 a.m. to noon.

Where: Wallace Building
502 E. 9th St.
Des Moines, IA 50309



The Wallace Building auditorium is just inside the main entrance on the east side of the building.

To register, visit <http://hls.extension.iastate.edu/calendar>. Just click on the CERT class and set up an account.

Registration is FREE and space is limited, so sign up soon!

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact **David Johnston** of Iowa HSEMD at **515.725.3295** or david.johnston@iowa.gov.

Multi-State Train Derailment Workshop

Iowa HSEMD along with counterparts in Minnesota and Wisconsin are hosting a Multi-State Train Derailment Workshop December 3–4 in La Crosse, Wis.

This workshop will consist of presentations covering the different aspects of train derailment. The general session on day one will

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Upcoming Training Opportunities

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provide an overview of rail hazmat which will lead into day two's sessions covering topics such as risk assessment, planning, local perspectives, and information sharing.

When: Dec. 3-4

Where: Stoney Creek Inn
3060 S. Kinney Coulee Rd.
La Crosse, WI

Registration for this course is FREE. Register online at: <http://hls.extension.iastate.edu/calendar> by Nov. 24. You will need to create an account if you have not previously done so.

A block of rooms will be held for \$70 plus tax for this event until Nov. 14. Contact Stoney Creek Inn at **800.659.2220** or **608.781.3060** and ask for the Multi-State Train Derailment Workshop.

If you have questions, please contact either **Whitney Baethke**, Iowa HSEMD, at **515.725.3236** or whitney.baethke@iowa.gov, or **Vicki Morris**, Iowa HSEMD, at **515.725.3294** or vicki.morris@iowa.gov.



Public Information in a WMD/Terrorism Incident (MGT318-TEEX)

This course is designed to provide an overview for individuals who are likely to interface with the media. The media represent one of the most critical target audiences with whom the PIO must communicate during a WMD/terrorism incident. The communication needs of the media, and the various options available for effectively communicating with the media will be the focus of this course.

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to describe and identify the major elements associated with public information in a WMD/terrorism incident.

The course is taught by the Texas Engineering Extension Service (www.teex.com).

When: Dec. 4-5
8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Where: Hazardous Materials
Regional Training Center
1925 Newell Street
Waterloo, IA 50707

To register call **319.291.4373** or email bhcema@co.black-hawk.ia.us. Registration is FREE. A light lunch will be served. Lodging and travel are the responsibility of the course participant.

For more information, contact **Mr. J.H. "Doc" Mills** at **979.458.8199** or doc.mills@teexmail.tamu.edu. Ω

Winter Weather Awareness Day is Nov. 13

Iowa HSEMD and the National Weather Service have designated Nov. 13, 2008, as Winter Weather Awareness Day in Iowa.

Severe winter storms in Iowa in February and December of 2007 demonstrated the need for Iowans to be prepared for winter weather. Visit the Be Ready Iowa! Learn more at www.bereadyiowa.org. More information can also be found on the Des Moines National Weather Service Web site at www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx/ by clicking on the Winter Weather Awareness Day link near the top of the page. Ω

How to Register for Assistance

Individuals may register for assistance online at www.fema.gov anytime or by calling toll-free **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or (TTY) **1-800-462-7585** for those with hearing or speech impairments. Representatives are available from **7 a.m.-11 p.m., seven days a week**.

Applicants may also call those numbers to check on the status and update their applications or report any additional damage. Ω

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division

A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense

Administrator
David L. Miller

7105 N.W. 70th Avenue
Camp Dodge, Bldg. W-4
Johnston, IA 50131

Phone: 515.725.3231

Fax: 515.725.3260

Web site:

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

Secure & Prepared is published by the Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division for those involved in the homeland security system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact Stefanie Bond, 515.725.3271 or stefanie.bond@iowa.gov.

News Team

Stefanie Bond
Beth Gathercole
David Johnston
Kyle Karsjen
Lucinda Robertson
Kathy Stodola
Bret Voorhees
Lynda Wessel

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

More Personnel Notes from HSEMD...

Preparedness Bureau

Mark Shearer began working for HSEMD in August as a planning specialist. His main duties are to coordinate the Multi-State Partnership for Security in Agriculture and act as the HSEMD liaison to the Iowa Dept. of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS). Mark's previous position was homeland security coordinator for IDALS. He also served as building coordinator and lead for the state veterinary response team and was the point of contact on numerous committees and boards including the State Emergency Response Commission.

When he's not working, Mark enjoys walking the dog and playing with the cat. He also plays in several orchestras and "dabbles in politics." Mark lives with his wife Tetyana in Clive.



Mark Shearer

They have three grown children and one grandson. Ω

Application Process for Grant Program Begins

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Region 4

Meeting was held Oct. 17

Contact: Bob Seivert (Shelby)
712.755.5160

Larry Oliver (Harrison)
712.644.2353

Region 5

Meeting was held Oct. 28

Contact: Larry Smith (Keokuk)
641.622.2528

Jamey Robinson (Mahaska)
641.672.1209



Region 6

Meeting was held Oct. 14

Contact: Barb Berquam (Black Hawk)
319.291.4373

Tom Berger (Dubuque)
563.589.4170

Applications will be available Nov. 7 and the application period will close Dec. 8, 2008. Ω