



# SECURE & PREPARED

May 20, 2011

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### Save the Date!

The 8th Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference will be held Nov. 1-2 in West Des Moines. More information on page 2.

### HSEMD Office Closing

HSEMD offices will be closed on Monday, May 30 for the Memorial Day holiday. Iowa State Patrol Dispatch will be taking emergency calls that come in via the Division's main number 515.725.3231.

## HSEMD Supports Louisiana with Flood-Fighting Resources

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) showed support for our neighbors in need by recently sending its supply of Hesco barriers to Louisiana.

The barriers were sent at the request of the Rock Island Army Corps of Engineers because of a shortage of available barriers. The Hescos will be used as part of an effort to protect the cities of Baton Rouge and New Orleans as they face historic flooding. Once new Hesco barriers are available, the Corps will replace the barriers stock sent to Louisiana by HSEMD.

"We were pleased we could help our colleagues in Louisiana," said



**HSEMD and National Guard Staff load Hesco barriers bound for Louisiana. Photo by Joyce Flinn.**

HSEMD Administrator Derek Hill. "We know they, and our emergency management friends across the United States, would do the same for us."

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## Governor Issues Disaster Proclamation for Taylor County

Tornadoes that struck Taylor County on May 11 prompted Governor Branstad to issue a disaster proclamation.

The governor's proclamation, issued on May 12, allowed state resources to be utilized to respond to and recover from the effects of the storm, primarily in the city of Lenox. HSEMD

worked with Taylor County Emergency Management to identify and deliver needed resources, primarily for removal and management of debris.

Resources coordinated by HSEMD included: The Region 4 Saw Strike Team (Southwest Iowa) to help clear debris; the Iowa Department

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## HSEMD Sends Flood-Fighting Resources to Louisiana

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On May 16, six trucks from Tan Tara Trucking of Muscatine arrived at Camp Dodge to transport the barriers south. HSEMD personnel were on hand to support and oversee the mission. National Guard personnel supported the mission by opening additional gates to get the trucks through security at Camp Dodge, and forklift operators loaded the product on the trucks. The last of the six trucks left the base around 5:30 p.m. that same day.



**Pallets of Hesco barriers awaiting loading and transport at Camp Dodge. Photo by Joyce Flinn.**

A total of 129 pallets of barriers were sent to Louisiana, with each pallet providing 90 linear feet of flood wall coverage - making the total amount of flood wall coverage provided 11,610 linear feet.

Another way to look at it: a 15-foot section of barrier wall is the equivalent of 1,500 sandbags. The

total number of sandbags that will be replaced by using these barriers is 1,161,000. Ω

## Taylor County Receives Governor's Proclamation

...Continued from Page 1

of Transportation provided trucks, front-end loaders and chippers; and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources sent personnel to assist with debris management and removal.

The proclamation by the governor also launched the Iowa individual disaster assistance grant program, which provides grants of up to \$5,000 for households with incomes of up to 200 percent of federal poverty levels, or a maximum of \$37,000 annual income for a family of three.

This year, for the first time, the grant program allows local authorities to establish a voucher system to help people who do not have the up-front funds to begin repairs.

Iowans can check with county emergency management coordinators to learn the status of local voucher programs.

Grants are available for home or car repairs, replacement of clothing or food, and for the expense of temporary housing. Original receipts are required for those seeking reimbursement for actual expenses related to storm recovery.

The grant application and instructions are available for residents of Taylor County at the "Storm Help" link on the front page of the Department of Human Services website at [www.dhs.iowa.gov](http://www.dhs.iowa.gov). Applications must be received within 45 days. Ω

## Governor's Homeland Security Conference

The 8th Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference will be



held Nov. 1-2 at the Sheraton Hotel in West Des Moines.

A special free day of training, Essential Records Management, will again be offered in conjunction with the conference on Monday, Oct. 31. Details to follow soon.

For more information, visit [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/quick\\_links/conference.html](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/quick_links/conference.html).

Governor's Conference staff may be reached at [governors.conference@iowa.gov](mailto:governors.conference@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.

**We're on the Web!**

[www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org)

## LEPC Conference is July 28-30

The deadline is quickly approaching for registering for the Region VII LEPC/TERC Emergency Planning & Response Conference. Early Bird registrations are \$50. After June 1, the registration will be \$100. Be sure to reserve your hotel room by July 7.

The LEPC Conference will be July 28–30, 2011, at the La Vista Conference Center in La Vista, Neb. Agenda, registration and accommodation information is available at [www.marc.org/gti/lepc-terc/](http://www.marc.org/gti/lepc-terc/). A copy of the conference brochure is located on the HSEMD website.

We have had a very good response in the past to requests for financial assistance to attend the conference. If you want to be placed on a waiting list for this assistance, please contact HSEMD's Paul Sadler at [paul.sadler@iowa.gov](mailto:paul.sadler@iowa.gov). Financial assistance is available for members of active LEPCs.

Five training sessions will be available on Thursday, July 28. On July 29 the opening plenary session will be Raymond P. Beaudry. The technical tracks begin that afternoon, and social events will be held after hours at the Strategic Air Command (SAC) Museum. Saturday, July 30, will feature more technical tracks with a noon awards luncheon. At least four Iowa LEPCs will be honored! Break-out sessions will be held Saturday afternoon for each state to meet with their State Emergency Response Commission, followed by a table-top exercise. The exhibit area will be open July 29-30 for you to see the latest in available technology. The conference will wrap-up at 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 30.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference. If you have any questions about the conference, contact Paul Sadler. Ω

## May is National Mental Health Month

Did you know that one in four American adults struggle with a treatable mental health condition each year? The Iowa Concern Hotline is available to offer help.

The Iowa Concern Hotline is a program of the Iowa State University Extension service. The program began in 1985 as a toll-free number serving the agricultural community. Today, the toll-free number serves urban as well as rural Iowa. By calling Iowa Concern one has access to an attorney for legal education, stress counselors, and information and referral services for a wide variety of topics. In addition, Iowa Concern maintains

this website featuring an extensive Frequently Asked Questions database for legal, finance, crisis and disaster, and personal health issues.

The website is also the link to Iowa Concern's Live Chat service. Live Chat immediately connects you with a stress counselor where you can "talk" (type) one-on-one in a secure environment. All Iowa Concern services are available 24 hours a day, seven days per week, at no charge.

Call the toll-free Iowa Concern Hotline at **1-800-447-1985**, or visit their website at [www.extension.iastate.edu/iowaconcern](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/iowaconcern). Ω