



# SECURE & PREPARED

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Get the latest information on the recovery efforts along the Missouri River by visiting [www.MoRiverRecovery.iowa](http://www.MoRiverRecovery.iowa).

## On the Calendar...

### March

- American Red Cross Month
- Flood Awareness Month (Iowa)
- National Poison Prevention Week: 50th Anniversary (18-24)

### April

- National 911 Education Month
- Severe Weather Awareness Week (2-6)
- National Volunteer Week (15-21)

### May

- Public Service Recognition Week (6-12)
- National Nurse's Week (6-12)
- National Police Week (12-17)
- National EMS Week (20-26)
- National Public Works Week (20-26)

## March is Flood Awareness Month

Governor Branstad has proclaimed March as Flood Awareness Month in Iowa. To assist Iowans in preparing for and remaining safe during flood events, several state agencies kicked off a public awareness campaign on March 1.

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, along with the Iowa Insurance Division, Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the National Weather Service, are sharing flood-related information and safety tips throughout March. The focus of the campaign is educating Iowans about family and individual preparedness, flood insurance, disaster precautions and other safety measures.

State officials advise people to begin assessing their flood risk by be-



**Oakville home surrounded by flood waters in 2008. FEMA photo.**

ing aware of whether they live in or near a flood plain, discussing flood preparations with their families, and considering whether flood insurance would be a good choice for them. Iowans who rent or own a home or business should also be aware of the availability of flood insurance. Iowans want to consider looking into

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## DHS Seeks Input on National Planning Frameworks

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are seeking input on four working drafts of the National Planning Frameworks focusing on prevention, protection, mitigation, and response and recovery. DHS and FEMA are also seeking input on the initial draft of the Recovery Federal Interagency Operational Plan. All are part of the Presidential Policy Directive 8/PPD-8: National Preparedness.

Over the course of the next 30 days, stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide additional input to the drafts of these Frameworks and the initial draft of the Recovery Federal Interagency Operational Plan. The period will end on April 2, 2012.

Please visit [www.fema.gov/ppd8](http://www.fema.gov/ppd8) to view the working drafts of these documents and submit input using the accompanying matrix. Ω

## Legislative Update

The pace at the Capitol continues to move rapidly with the second legislative funnel approaching on March 16. This means that in order for bills to continue through the legislative process, they must have been approved in their chamber of origin and then voted out of committee of



the other chamber by that date-- House bills must be reported out of Senate committees and Senate bills from House committees.

### Bills of Interest

SF 2217--Creating a flood hazard mitigation program. Status: Passed Senate Feb. 28, currently in House Appropriations subcommittee.

SF 2272--Increases 911 wireless surcharge and makes language changes so the Iowa Code matches the Next Generation 911 technologies that are being put in place in the state. Status: Currently in Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Information on the status of legislation is available at [www.legis.iowa.gov](http://www.legis.iowa.gov).

## Upcoming Training Opportunities



### Storm Spotter Training

**When:** March 15  
6–8 p.m.  
**Where:** Coralville Public Library  
Schwab Auditorium  
1401 5th St., Coralville

This course taught by the National Weather Service offers basic information to help spot inclement weather. The target audience includes local emergency responders, fire and police officials, local elected officials, business owners, and school officials.

For more information, contact **Beth Lewis** at (515) 725-3204 or [beth.lewis@iowa.gov](mailto:beth.lewis@iowa.gov), or **B.J. Dvorak** at (319) 356-6762.

### Managing the Lost Person Incident

**When:** March 26–29  
8 a.m.–5:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Linn County EOC  
6301 Kirkwood Blvd.  
Cedar Rapids

This course is very heavy in Incident Command (IC)

instruction and includes the IC in classroom exercises. An intensive indoctrination for those who are interested in learning more about functioning Search and Rescue (SAR) management.

Audience for this course is police, fire, EMAs and command staff.

Prerequisites include ICS 100-200. NIMS 700-800 and ICS 300-400 are recommended but not required.

For more information, contact **Chance Kness** at (563) 242-5712.

### CERT Train-The-Trainer

**When:** March 29-30  
9 a.m.–5 p.m.  
**Where:** Joint Forces Headquarters  
6100 NW 78th Ave.  
Johnston

This course is for CERT members and leaders.

For more information, contact **Blake DeRouchey** at (515) 323-4232 or [blake.derouchey@iowa.gov](mailto:blake.derouchey@iowa.gov).

### Effective Communication (IS 242.a)

**When:** April 4–5  
8 a.m.–4 p.m.  
**Where:** Camp Dodge M9-2  
7105 NW 70th Ave.  
Johnston

Being able to communicate effectively is a necessary and vital part of the job for every emergency manager, planner, and responder. This course is designed to improve all phases of communication.

For more information, contact **Beth Lewis** at (515) 725-3204 or [beth.lewis@iowa.gov](mailto:beth.lewis@iowa.gov), or **Susan Green** at (515) 725-3243 or [susan.green@iowa.gov](mailto:susan.green@iowa.gov).

### ICS-300 Intermediate Incident Command

**When:** April 10-11  
**Where:** Polk County EOC  
1907 Carpenter Ave.  
Des Moines

This class is intended for supervisory, management or other staff that would be assigned in

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### Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division

A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense

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**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.

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#### News Team

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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)

## March is Flood Awareness Month in Iowa

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the insurance as soon as possible, because unlike homeowner's insurance, there is a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance begins once a person purchases a policy. Iowans can find out more by visiting the Iowa Insurance Division's flood awareness website at [www.DontTestTheWatersIowa.gov](http://www.DontTestTheWatersIowa.gov), at the National Flood Insurance Program website at [www.fema.gov/business/nfip/](http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/), or at [www.FloodSmart.gov](http://www.FloodSmart.gov).

Iowans are also urged to take three simple steps to protect themselves

and their families before a flood or disaster occurs:

- Learn about and stay aware of flood risks in your community.
- Work with family members to put together a family emergency and evacuation plan.
- Put together an emergency kit before a disaster strikes.

Learn more about flood preparedness on HSEMD's website at [www.BeReady.Iowa.gov](http://www.BeReady.Iowa.gov). Ω

## Upcoming Training Opportunities



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a supervisory or leadership role in the command or general staff of an emergency response incident or major pre-planned event. This class meets NIMS/ICS compliance. The class may be used to update your ICS-300 knowledge.

There is no charge to attend this training that is sponsored by Region One HSB.

For more information contact **Liz Manion** [mmanion@storycounty.com](mailto:mmanion@storycounty.com).

### Developing and Managing Volunteers (IS 244)

**When:** May 22–23  
8 a.m.–4 p.m.  
**Where:** Camp Dodge M9-2  
7105 NW 70th Ave.  
Johnston

This course is for emergency managers and related professionals working

with all types of volunteers and coordinating with voluntary agencies. The course provides procedures and tools for building and working with voluntary organizations.

For more information, contact **Beth Lewis** at (515) 725-3204 or [beth.lewis@iowa.gov](mailto:beth.lewis@iowa.gov), or **Susan Green** at (515) 725-3243 or [susan.green@iowa.gov](mailto:susan.green@iowa.gov). Ω

### CANCELLATIONS

The following Region One training has been cancelled:

#### EOC Operations Workshop for Flood to Terrorism Disasters

Boone County Emergency Management, March 28

Story County Emergency Management, April 3