



# SECURE & PREPARED

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## Drought Webinar

The Safeguard Iowa Partnership will be hosting a free webinar on understanding and responding to the drought, on **Aug. 15**. Read more about the webinar on page 6.

## On the Calendar...

### September

Labor Day (3)\*  
National Preparedness Month/  
Family Preparedness Month (Iowa)

### October

Fire Prevention Week (7-13)  
America's Safe Schools Week (21-27)

### November

Winter Weather Awareness Day (8)  
Veteran's Day (11)  
Veteran's Day observed (12)\*

*\*State holiday.*

*HSEMD offices will be closed.*

## As drought continues, Governor and Lt. Governor pledge State's ongoing assistance

On July 30, Gov. Terry Branstad and Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds used their weekly press conference to highlight the State's ongoing efforts to address the impact of this summer's drought in Iowa.

Joining them at the news conference were Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey and Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division Administrator Mark Schouten.

Branstad and Reynolds outlined measures that have been taken thus far, including: a proclamation that was issued by the Governor to temporarily waive certain weight and width and hours of service requirements for those transporting hay, straw and stover; opening of state-owned land managed by the Iowa Department



*Photo provided by Joe Murphy/Iowa Soybean Association.*

of Natural Resources for emergency grazing and haying; and opening up of Iowa Department of Transportation

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## FEMA releases response to OIG audit on replacement of UI facilities

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently reaffirmed its commitment to replace facilities at the University of Iowa (UI) in a formal response to a U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General (OIG) report.

The OIG report, issued in June, calls into question FEMA's decision

to fund the replacement of UI facilities damaged by 2008 flooding. The OIG report had recommended that FEMA deobligate millions of dollars in funding to replace Hancher Voxman Clapp and Art Building East, which reside in a floodplain, and asserted the buildings should have been repaired instead.

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## Governor pledges drought assistance

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roadside ditches as another avenue for farmers to bail hay.

“We want to assure Iowans that every effort will be taken on their behalf with regard to this drought,” said Gov. Branstad. “We will work with federal partners, state agencies and departments, and all Iowans as we combat the effects of this drought. This is a top priority of my administration.”

During the press conference, Schouten provided an overview of HSEMD’s efforts to bring together stakeholders to get a clear picture of current conditions in order to de-

termine possible response actions that may become necessary if the drought continues.

Currently, many counties in Iowa are included in a USDA Secretarial Disaster Designation for drought, making agricultural producers in those areas eligible for certain types of assistance. For details on the Secretarial Disaster Designation and other available assistance, see page 4.

For more information, visit the Governor’s drought website at <https://governor.iowa.gov/drought>. Ω

## HSEMD Conducts Radiological Emergency Preparedness training with partners

Each year, HSEMD staff provides training to offsite emergency response personnel as part of the Iowa Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program. The most recent training was conducted in support of Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power Station, which is located near Omaha, Neb.

On July 25, 2012, annual training was conducted with the Denison Volunteer Fire Department and the Crawford County Memorial Hospital. The training focused on communications, medical transport, radiological monitoring and decontamination, as well as radiological contamination control.

HSEMD staff, along with representatives from the Duane Arnold Emergency Center, Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power Station, and the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station, provided annual training to nearly 2,000 emergency person-



*HSEMD’s Jim Klier (left) in role of victim along with Crawford County Memorial Hospital ambulance crew member Doyle Simonson at July 25 annual training.*

nel in 2011. This training, along with biennial FEMA-evaluated exercises, demonstrates Iowa’s robust Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program.

Learn more about HSEMD’s Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program at [www.homeland-security.iowa.gov/programs/radio\\_emerg\\_prep.html](http://www.homeland-security.iowa.gov/programs/radio_emerg_prep.html). Ω

## FEMA response to audit

...Continued from Page 1

In its Aug. 1 official response to the OIG, FEMA confirmed its continued commitment to moving forward with replacement of the facilities.

“We are glad FEMA has stood by their previous commitments to the State and the University of Iowa. Common sense seems to be gaining the upper hand in this federal policy dispute. We recently surpassed the four-year anniversary of the flooding event and the University’s recovery from the 2008 floods cannot be delayed any further,” said Governor Branstad and Lt. Governor Reynolds in a joint statement.

“We appreciate that FEMA leadership has reaffirmed previous decisions by FEMA Region VII to replace the Hancher Voxman Clapp and Art Building East facilities,” said HSEMD Administrator Mark Schouten. “This brings the University of Iowa one step closer to moving forward on replacing these important facilities.”

The UI buildings were damaged during record flooding in 2008, when President Bush issued a disaster declaration for 85 of Iowa’s 95 counties, including Johnson County, where the University is located.

If the OIG does not accept FEMA’s response to the report, the final decision regarding repair vs. replacement of the UI facilities will be made by the undersecretary of management of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Ω

## Indiana State Fair stage collapse on agenda for 2012 Homeland Security Conference

The collapse of the grandstand stage at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in August 2011 will be a topic for discussion at the 9th Annual Iowa Homeland Security Conference. The conference will be held Nov. 6-7 in Des Moines.

Charlie Fisher with Witt Associates will discuss the incident and the independent assessment conducted by Witt Associates on behalf of the State of Indiana. Fisher is the Vice President of Consulting Operations at Witt Associates and oversees the company's emergency preparedness consulting practice.

The conference will be held at the Community Choice Credit Union

Convention Center at Veteran's Memorial in downtown Des Moines. Blocks of rooms have been reserved at three area hotels. To reserve a room-line, visit the HSEMD website at [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov) and click on the conference logo on the lower left side of the home page.

Those who wish to view an agenda and register may also do so through the HSEMD website. Ω



*Charlie Fisher,  
Witt Associates*

## Citizen Corps workshop offered at Homeland Security Conference

A statewide Citizen Corps workshop will be held Nov. 5, 2012, in conjunction with the Iowa Homeland Security Conference.

The workshop will include a general session addressing model programs. There will also be afternoon breakout sessions for participants to share and gather best practices on issues, including: questions about the program's future; ideas for funding; recruitment and sustainment of volunteers; CERT programs; and the growth of Community Organi-

zations Active in Disaster (COAD). A detailed agenda will be available in the near future.

To register for the workshop, go to: <http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training/CalDetails>.

More information about Citizen Corps in Iowa can be found on the HSEMD website at [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/programs/idhrc.html](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/programs/idhrc.html). Ω

## Johnson County ARES/RACES group receives volunteer award

A group of amateur radio operators from Johnson County recently received a Governor's Volunteer Award for their service to the community.

The Johnson County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) Unit received the Group Governor's Volunteer Award from Iowa Governor Terry E. Branstad during a ceremony on June 29, 2012, in Cedar Rapids. The award is given for outstanding commitment and service.

"We are pleased to honor those who have given the precious gift of their time to make a difference and enrich lives all across Iowa. Thank you for your dedication and for contributing your talent to make this state great," said Governor Branstad.

The Johnson County ARES/RACES unit consists of local amateur radio operators with the special training and equipment needed to aid in the response to various situations where emergency communications is requested by authorities. The Johnson County ARES/RACES Unit currently has 17 members.

The group was nominated for the Governor's Volunteer Award by Dave Wilson, Johnson County Emergency Management Agency Coordinator. Ω

## Mitigation projects receive funding

Hazard mitigation projects are important for reducing or preventing damage from future disasters. Federal funding for hazard mitigation projects is made available after each Presidential Disaster Declaration through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

As part of HMGP in Iowa, 75 percent of eligible costs is paid by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), 10 percent is paid by the applicant (state), and the remaining 15 percent is paid by the sub-applicant (local governments/communities, tribal governments, and certain eligible non-profits).

The following projects have been funded recently through HMGP:

### Jones County

Award: \$30,000

Project: Mitigation Planning

Multi-jurisdictional plan including: Jones County (unincorporated);

and cities of Anamosa, Center Junction, Martelle, Monticello, Morley, Olin, Onslow, Oxford Junction and Wyoming.

### Winneshiek County Conservation

Award: \$163,844

Project: Tornado Safe Room

New construction of a building with campground restrooms and a multi-purpose classroom located at Lake Meyer County Park.

### City of Council Bluffs

Award: \$871,480

Project: Property Acquisition

Four residential lots with one structure on a single lot substantially damaged. Remaining three lots contained multiple structures on leased land. All leased structures were substantially damaged and uninhabitable. Ω

## HSEMD offers HSEEP refresher course

On July 30, 2012, Iowa Homeland Security Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) staff John Halbrook and Steve Warren conducted Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) refresher training in Ames. The class was attended by nine participants from across the state who had previously taken an HSEEP course, but needed to refresh their skills in the design, conduct and evaluation of exercise.

This course focused on the HSEEP methodology, the exercise design process, the different types of exercises and what each type is used for. The course also provided plenty of opportunities for questions and dialog between participants and the exercise training staff.

This is the first HSEEP refresher class that has been taught locally. To build this course HSEMD used material from the new Exercise Design/HSEEP course curriculum that has been successfully rolled out this year. It is anticipated there will be a demand for this refresher course across the state in the future because it has been a few years since the initial offering of the HSEEP and exercise design courses across the state of Iowa.

For more information about this program please feel free to contact John Halbrook ([john.halbrook@iowa.gov](mailto:john.halbrook@iowa.gov), 515.725.3280) or Steve Warren ([steve.warren@iowa.gov](mailto:steve.warren@iowa.gov), 515.725.3201). Ω

## September is Family Preparedness Month Pledge to Prepare!

September is Family Preparedness Month (FPM) in Iowa. HSEMD is teaming up with the Iowa Emergency Management Association (IEMA) and the Safeguard Iowa Partnership (SIP) to promote family and individual preparedness.

This year's FPM theme is "Pledge to Prepare." Iowans will be encouraged to pledge to take actions to be better prepared for any emergency or disaster.

Be sure to look in the Aug. 24 issue of "Secure & Prepared" for details and check HSEMD's family and individual preparedness website [www.beready.iowa.gov](http://www.beready.iowa.gov) for updates. Details will also be posted on the IEMA website at [www.iowaema.com](http://www.iowaema.com) and SIP website at [www.safeguard-iowa.org](http://www.safeguard-iowa.org). Ω



## Training Opportunities

### Intermediate Incident Command System (ICS 300)

#### Mount Pleasant

**When:** Aug. 13-14  
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Where:** Henry County EMA  
900 W. Washington St.

#### New Hampton

**When:** Aug. 28-29  
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Where:** 260 E. Prospect St.

Two offerings! This course is targeted toward those disciplines that would respond to an incident. Prerequisites: ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800.

For the Mt. Pleasant course, contact **Andrew James** at [ajames@storycounty.com](mailto:ajames@storycounty.com) or **515.382.7229**. For more information or to register for the New Hampton course, visit [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov) and choose “HSEMD Course Registration” under the “Quick Links” tab.

### Medical Preparedness & Response to Bombing Incidents (MGT 348)

**When:** Aug. 21-22 *and* 23-24  
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Where:** Mercy College of Health Sciences  
928 6th Ave.  
Des Moines

Two offerings! Participants completing this course will gain an enhanced understanding and awareness of issues and considerations relating to a bombing incident.



Content areas include identification of targets, explosives characteristics, pre-attack indicators, pre- and post-detonation response, bombing injuries, security, and resource management.

For more information on this course, contact **David Filipp** at [dfilipp@mercydesmoines.org](mailto:dfilipp@mercydesmoines.org) or **515.643.7498**.

### Advanced Incident Command System (ICS 400)

**When:** Sept. 10-11  
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Where:** Henry County EMA  
900 W. Washington St.  
Mt. Pleasant

Contact **Andrew James**, [ajames@storycounty.com](mailto:ajames@storycounty.com) for more information or **515.382.7229**.

### ICS Summary for Executives (ICS 402)

**When:** Sept. 11 (two sessions)  
3–5 p.m., 6:30–8:30 p.m.

**Where:** Dubuque County  
Regional Emergency Responder Training Facility

*Continued on Page 6...*

## Assistance available for drought-impacted agriculture producers

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has issued Secretarial Natural Disaster Designations for Iowa counties impacted by this summer’s drought.

Farm operators who have suffered major production and/or physical losses caused by the drought may be eligible for low-interest emergency loans under a Secretarial Natural Disaster Designation.

Impacted producers in designated counties should contact their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office for more information. To find out which counties are included in the designation, visit the Governor’s drought website at <https://governor.iowa.gov/drought> or the HSEMD website at [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov).

Other available forms of assistance include the USDA Emergency Conservation Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Wetland Reserves Program. Information on these programs may also be obtained from local FSA offices.

In addition to assistance for agriculture producers, small non-farm businesses impacted by drought may be eligible to apply for loans from the Small Business Administration (SBA).

For more information, visit [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance) or call **800.659.2955**. Ω

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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.

For more information contact Stefanie Bond, 515.725.3231 or [stefanie.bond@iowa.gov](mailto:stefanie.bond@iowa.gov).

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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.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov)

## Training opportunities

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14928 Public Safety Way  
Dubuque

Contact **Andrew James**, [ajames@storycounty.com](mailto:ajames@storycounty.com) for more information or **515.382.7229**.

### Operations Section Chief (L-958)

**When:** Sept. 18-21  
8 a.m.–5 p.m.

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

This course addresses the roles and responsibilities appropriate to an Operations Section Chief operating on a local or State-level All-Hazards ICS Incident Management Team. There is no charge to attend.

Contact **Andrew James**, [ajames@storycounty.com](mailto:ajames@storycounty.com) or **Liz Manion**, [mmanion@storycounty.com](mailto:mmanion@storycounty.com) for more information or **515.382.7229**

### Intermediate Incident Command System (ICS 300)

**When:** Sept. 25-26  
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Where:** Linn County EMA  
6301 Kirkwood Blvd SW  
Cedar Rapids

Contact **Andrew James**, [ajames@storycounty.com](mailto:ajames@storycounty.com) for more information or **515.382.7229**.

### Advanced Incident Command System (ICS 400)

**When:** Oct. 10-11  
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Where:** Linn County EMA  
6301 Kirkwood Blvd SW  
Cedar Rapids

Contact **Andrew James**, [ajames@storycounty.com](mailto:ajames@storycounty.com) for more information or **515.382.7229**. Ω

## Safeguard Iowa Partnership to host drought webinar August 15

The Safeguard Iowa Partnership (SIP) will host a webinar to help response partners from across the state gain situational awareness of Iowa's drought.

"Understanding and Responding to the 2012 Drought," will be held Aug. 15 from 12-2 p.m. The webinar will include a history of Iowa droughts, an overview of Iowa's water infrastruc-

ture along with conservation tips, and a discussion of drought emergency response coordination.

For more information and to register for this free webinar, visit the SIP website at [www.safeguardiowa.org](http://www.safeguardiowa.org) and click on the link for the SIP Webinar: Understanding and Responding to the 2012 Drought. Ω