Secure & Prepared
Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management
Volume 10, Issue 8 August 2014

57 Iowa counties included in three Presidential Disaster Declarations in 2014

Iowa has been hit hard this summer with severe weather, and now 57 of the state's 99 counties are included in at least one of three Presidential Disaster Declarations for storms that occurred from the beginning of June through the first week in July.

The most recent declaration (DR-4187) was received on Aug. 5 for 22 counties as a result of severe weather that occurred June 26–July 7: Audubon, Black Hawk, Butler, Cedar, Des Moines, Grundy, Hamilton, Hardin, Ida, Iowa, Jackson, Jasper, Johnson, Jones, Keokuk, Lee, Linn, Mahaska, Muscatine, Poweshiek, Tama and Washington. On Aug. 19, Governor Terry Branstad received word that two counties, Crawford and Shelby, had been added to this latest declaration.

The first Presidential declaration (DR-4181) was received July 14 for nine counties due to severe weather from June 3–4. The counties included in the declaration were: Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Mills, Montgomery, Pottawattamie, Ringgold, Taylor and Wayne.

The second declaration (DR-4184) was received July 24 for 26 counties that experienced damage due to storms that occurred June 14-23: Allamakee, Buchanan, Buena Vista, Butler, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Fayette, Franklin, Hancock, Humboldt, Ida, Kossuth, Lyon, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas,

Continued on Page 2...

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Preparedness Month 3
School safety course 3
New HSEMD employee.....4
Homeland Security Conference deadlines.....4
TEPW scheduled.....4
Audubon Co. EMA retires 5
Iowa project featured in national exhibition 5
On the calendar.....5
Training opportunities 6

Presidential Disaster Declarations

...Continued from Page 1

Sac, Sioux, Winnebago, Winneshiek, Woodbury and Wright.

All three Presidential declarations are for Public Assistance only. Under the federal Public Assistance (PA) program, FEMA awards grants to assist state and local governments and certain private nonprofits in recovering from these disasters. The program will fund debris removal, implementation of emergency protective measures (e.g. sandbagging pre-flood), and permanent restoration of infrastructure. The program also encourages protection from future damage by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures during the recovery process.

HSEMD staff work with FEMA to manage the program and administer the funding for the PA program. The federal government covers 75 percent of project costs; the State covers 10 percent, and the local cost share is 15 percent.

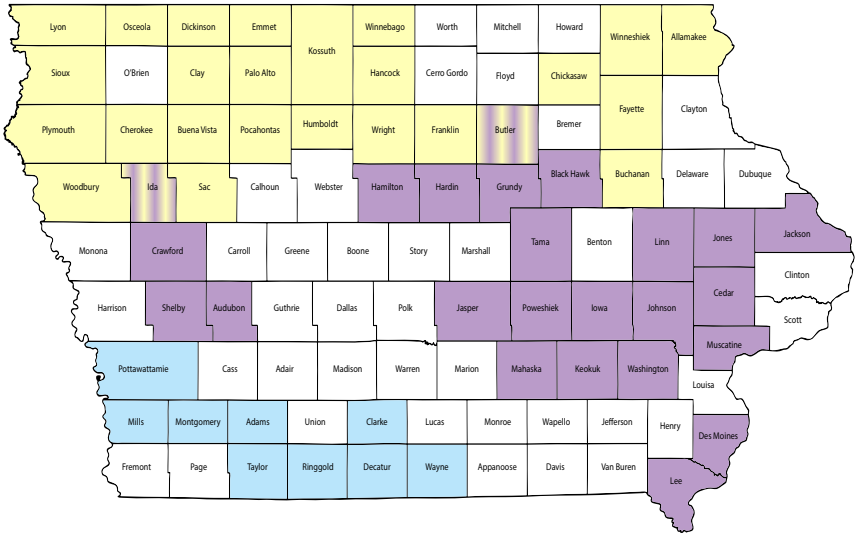
The application deadline for interested applicants in affected counties for DR-4187 is Sept. 4, 2014, with the exception of Crawford and Shelby counties, where the deadline for applicants is Sept. 18, 2014. The deadline for applications from counties covered by DR-4181 and DR-4184 has already passed. Click here to visit the HSEMD website to learn more about the Public Assistance program and for contact information for prospective applicants.

In addition, the federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) has been activated as a result of disasters 4181, 4184, and 4187. The program provides grants to states, local governments, and Native American tribes for long-term hazard mitigation projects and is available for applicants in all 99 counties. FEMA's share of total eligible project costs is 75 percent; the State typically covers 10 percent and the local jurisdiction is responsible for 15 percent.

Hazard mitigation grant applications are due beginning June 2015, however, because of the limited amount of funds available and the length of the grant process it is recommended that any interested applicants begin the process immediately. Please click here to visit the HSEMD website for contact information and to learn more about HMGP. Ω

Presidential Disaster Declarations 2014

Public Assistance



Map of Presidential Disaster Declarations for Iowa in 2014. Fifty-seven counties are covered by disasters 4181, 4184, and 4187. Butler and Ida counties are included in both DR-4184 and DR-4187. The governor has established a task force to oversee recovery efforts for these disasters.

September is National Preparedness Month

This past summer's severe weather and flooding are reminders that disasters can and do happen in Iowa. Preparedness Month is an opportunity to remind Iowans of the importance of being prepared for emergencies and disasters.

Throughout September, Iowans are being encouraged to become more prepared by taking three simple steps:

Step 1: Build a kit. During an emergency, there are items you and your family will need. Make an emergency supply kit and keep it in a place where it will be easy to grab if you need to quickly leave your home.

Step 2: Make a plan. You and your family may not be together when an emergency happens, so knowing what to do, where you will go, and how to get in touch with each other is important. Put together a family emergency plan and practice for emergencies regularly.

Step 3: Be aware. When bad weather is in the forecast, pay attention to the news, sign up for alerts for your mobile phone, and use your NOAA weather radio to receive weather and other emergency alerts. You should know what is going on around you at all times.

Preparedness Month is an opportunity to ensure all members of your family are prepared, including kids, the elderly and pets. During September, visit the Ready Iowa website, **www.beready.iowa.gov**, to learn more.

Iowa's Preparedness Month is held in conjunction with National Preparedness Month, which was created by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in response to the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, in an effort to educate the public on how to prepare for emergencies and disasters. Ω

School safety course held

Left: A diverse group of individuals attended the Multi-Hazard Emergency Planning for Schools course (L364) that was held at Camp Dodge July 31-Aug. 1, 2014. Participants included educators, local emergency managers, community law enforcement personnel, state agency staff, and private sector representatives.

HSEMD welcomes new employee

Jeremy Sroka began working in HSEMD's Operations Division on July 28.

As the critical infrastructure and key resources (CIKR) asset protection specialist, Jeremy will conduct and coordinate assessments on public and private sector critical infrastructure; provide advance planning assistance to state, local and private asset holders; guide security officials in the preparation of risk assessments; develop and update risk profiles for specific asset sectors; and conduct field assessments to guide the Threat Information and Infrastructure Protection Program (TIIP).

Before joining HSEMD, Jeremy spent seven years working for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in conjunction with the Iowa Army National Guard (IAARNG). As part of his job duties, he traveled across the U.S. to conduct vulnerability assessments and assisted state and local governments in the implementation or strengthening of their critical infrastructure protection plans.

Jeremy has served in the IAARNG for 11 years, including a deployment to Iraq in 2006. He is currently assigned to the 135th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment as the public affairs broadcast officer in charge. Jeremy has a degree in emergency and disaster management from Upper Iowa University.

Jeremy and his wife, Libby, live in Polk City with their son, Brantley, and their two dogs. They enjoy watching Hawkeye football, boating, fishing, playing golf, and riding their bicycles on local trails. Ω

Homeland Security Conference deadlines approach

Just a reminder that the registration cost for the 11th Annual Homeland Security Conference will go up after Oct. 1, from $125 to $150.

There are also several hotels with a block of rooms for conference attendees. You can find more information on the HSEMD **website**. The conference rate is available until **Sept. 19**.

The conference will be held Oct. 21-22 at the Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center at Veteran's Memorial in Des Moines. Ω

TEPW scheduled for October

For the past several years, HSEMD has gathered input for the creation of a combined training and exercise document from partners statewide; this document is created at the Training and Exercise Planning Workshop (TEPW).

The workshop enables HSEMD to compile and share priorities and initiatives. All HSEMD partners are encouraged to engage in their own TEPW process and then share the results as the state perspective is constructed. This year's state TEPW will take place on Oct. 20, 2014, at the Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center at Veteran's Memorial, prior to the 11th Annual Iowa Homeland Security Conference. The focus will be on the 2015 fiscal year, but items will be mapped out as far as 2020.

If you would like to be a part of this discussion, please contact **John Halbrook** (**john.halbrook@iowa.gov**) or **Steve Warren** (**steve.warren@iowa.gov**) by email or at **515.725.3231**. If you cannot attend, you may share the core capabilities that you feel are a priority, training information and exercise dates so that they may be included. Ω

[Submitted by John Halbrook, HSEMD exercise & training officer]

Audubon County EMA retires after 33 years

Les Larson

Audubon County Emergency Manager Les Larson retires at the end of August after 33 years as an emergency manager. He is the longest-serving emergency manager in Iowa.

Les started working at age 11 for a neighboring farmer. He did that for several years and then entered the military. After serving his country, Les worked at a body shop, started a body shop, performed electronics work and began his career as an emergency manager.

Les recently celebrated his 88th birthday on Aug. 14. If you're good at math, you'll know that means he has been working for 77 years. He officially retires on Aug. 31.

Happy birthday and congratulations on your retirement, Les! Ω

ON THE CALENDAR in SEPTEMBER

National Preparedness Month
Labor Day (1)*

**State holiday. HSEMD offices will be closed.*

Iowa mitigation project featured in national exhibition

Recently, the National Building Museum (NBM) in Washington, D.C., opened an exhibition titled "Designing for Disaster." This exhibition explores new solutions for, and historical responses to, a range of natural hazards. The show includes content about the Iowa State Fair Campground tornado shelter in Des Moines.

Above: Inside the tornado shelter at the Iowa State Fair Campground you will find restrooms, showers, vending, the campground office, and a meeting room.

The shelter was built using Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds, with a 75 percent federal share consisting of a $600,000 grant from FEMA, and a 25 percent local share, paid by the Iowa State Fair. It holds up to 400 people and is designed to withstand winds up to 250 miles per hour.

The project was managed by Linda Roose, HSEMD's planning and safe room lead, who worked closely with architects and contractors throughout the design and construction process. The shelter is just one of many innovative projects highlighted in the NBM exhibition.

The exhibition highlights a variety of buildings and facilities, including but not limited to hospitals, schools, public arenas, fire/police stations, and retail outlets.

"Designing for Disaster" will be on display through Aug. 2, 2015. For more information on the exhibition, visit the **National Building Museum website.** Ω

[Submitted by Caroline Winn, National Building Museum]

Training opportunities

EOC Management and Operations (G775)

When: Sept. 22–23, 2014
9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Osage Police Dept.
432 Main St.
Osage

This course describes the role, design, and functions of emergency operations centers (EOC) and their relationships as components of a multi-agency coordination system. The course contains disaster-related examples, activities and case studies that relate to EOCs and multi-agency coordination systems at the local, state and federal levels of government.

Target audience: emergency managers, first responders, public/private entities, disaster coordinators.

ICS/EOC Interface (G191)

When: Sept. 25, 2014
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Osage Police Dept.
432 Main St.
Osage

Target audience: emergency managers, EOCs and MAC system entities, first responders, public/private entities.

Natural Disaster Awareness for Caregivers of Senior Citizens (AWR 308)

When: Oct. 23, 2014
8 a.m.–noon
Where: CCCU at Vet's Memorial
833 5th Ave.
Des Moines

Target audience: senior care providers, shelter coordinators, facility planners, home health agencies, emergency managers, public health, first responders.

This course is designed to enhance the caregiver's awareness of vulnerability factors associated with senior citizens.

Note: This training will be held following the Iowa Homeland Security Conference and will be offered in two simultaneous sessions. Registration is required on both **HSEMD's training website** and the **NDPTC website.** Ω

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management

7900 Hickman Road, Suite 500
Windsor Heights, Iowa 50324
Ph: 515.725.3231
FAX 515.725.3260
www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov

Director
Mark Schouten

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.

Secure & Prepared is published for those involved in the homeland security/emergency management system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact Stefanie Bond at **stefanie.bond@iowa.gov**.

NEWS TEAM

Stefanie Bond
Laura Carlson
Tim Hauber
Beth Lewis
Amy Meston
Mat Noble
Lucinda Robertson
Kathy Stodola
Jessica Turba