

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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April 5-9 Designated as Severe Weather Awareness Week

DES MOINES – The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) and the National Weather Service (NWS) have designated April 5-9, 2010, as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Iowa.

During Severe Weather Awareness Week, the National Weather Service (NWS) will promote severe weather safety by issuing informative public information statements. Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) will give away 100 NOAA Weather Radios through a random drawing. Iowans can register to win one of the radios by going to www.BeReadyIowa.org.

“With recent flooding concerns still in the minds of many, and with the continued threat of seasonal flooding and severe weather, including tornadoes, it is important that Iowans be prepared for anything Mother Nature may deliver,” said David Miller, administrator for Iowa HSEMD. “We can’t always predict when disaster might strike, so it is essential that Iowans remain informed of the weather and the possibility for disaster; and act now to prepare a family emergency plan and have a kit.”

The highlight of Severe Weather Awareness Week is the annual tornado drill scheduled for Wednesday, April 7 at approximately 10 a.m. Schools, businesses, state and local governments, and individuals are strongly encouraged to participate in the drill. Additional information about the tornado drill can be found on local NWS Web sites.

For each day during Severe Weather Awareness Week, a different subject will be highlighted:

Monday	Flash Floods
Tuesday	Weather Warnings
Wednesday	Tornadoes
Thursday	Severe Thunderstorms
Friday	Family Preparedness

Additional information about severe weather and family safety can be found at the [BeReadyIowa website](http://www.BeReadyIowa.org).

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