

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 1, 2011

Contact: State Joint Information Center
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Contact: Governor's Office
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Iowa State Joint Information Center Update

DES MOINES – This update is provided by the Joint Information Center at the State Emergency Operations Center. For comprehensive disaster-related information and resources, visit the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division website at www.iowahomelandsecurity.org.

Please note: The daily update has been newly restructured to include the multiple severe weather events affecting Iowa.

This release includes the latest updates for the following severe weather events:

- DR-1998 - Missouri River flooding
- Summer 2011 severe weather and wind storm events

MEDIA CONFERENCE CALLS

The next weekly media conference call will be held Aug. 3 at 3:30 p.m.

- Conference Call Dial-In Number – 1-800-645-8878
- Conference Code: 003252

Same conference call information to be used on each call.

OTHER INFORMATION

- **Donations:** Donations of items such as clothing, food, furniture, etc, are NOT needed at this time. If you want to help, cash is best. To donate cash, visit www.aidmatrixnetwork.org/CashDonations/Default2.aspx?ST=Iowa.
- **Volunteers:** Those wishing to volunteer in a disaster-related capacity may sign up to do so at www.volunteeriowa.org.
- **Scams:** Iowans should be aware of the potential for disaster-related scams and price gouging. For information, visit the Iowa Attorney General's website at: www.IowaAttorneyGeneral.gov.
- **Additional links**
 - Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division: www.iowahomelandsecurity.org.
 - Governor Branstad's flood page: <https://governor.iowa.gov/news/missouri-river-flooding>.

MISSOURI RIVER FLOODING

<http://iowahomelandsecurity.org/disasters/disaster2011.html>

DR-1998: May 25 - Continuing

- Counties: Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury
- Federal Public Assistance – All six counties
- **State** Individual Assistance – All six counties

News and Updates:

- **Stay Aware, Be Prepared** - Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) reminds Iowans that flooding along the Missouri River is continuing, and river levels are projected to remain high for many more weeks. It is important that residents in threatened areas remain prepared in case conditions change. Keeping a bag packed with essential items and establishing a family evacuation plan will help Iowans be ready to evacuate if an order is given.

NEW – Shelter Summary – Iowa Shelters: On July 29, the American Red Cross opened a new shelter at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 611 First Avenue in Council Bluffs. Numerous shelters remain on standby and are ready to receive residents if needed.

State Response Summary:

- **Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD)**
 - **NEW** – HSEMD is responding to the Fremont County request for assistance in removing sun and heat deteriorated poly on Ditch 6. The Iowa Department of Corrections will provide inmate assistance to provide the necessary labor for removal of the old poly and to replace with new product.
 - HSEMD continues to work closely with various local, state, federal, voluntary and faith-based organizations as well as private partners, and continues to field calls and provide assistance on a 24-hour basis to local emergency management officials.
- **Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR)**
 - Counties have contacted the DNR about keeping some temporary levees constructed during the flooding in place as post-flood permanent structures. DNR is reviewing the regulations surrounding the structures as well as the application process so they are prepared for upcoming requests and applications.
- **Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC)**
 - **NEW** – Inmates will be providing the necessary labor to re-cover sun and heat deteriorated poly on Ditch 6 in Hamburg. They will also put new poly down to further protect the levee. Work is scheduled to start Monday, Aug. 1.
- **Iowa Finance Authority (IFA)**
 - **NEW** – IFA staff is monitoring the Iowa Rental Help call list and conducting follow-up on vacancies. IFA is also reaching out to property owners and managers to remind them that the flood threat has not passed and encourage them to keep monitoring the situation.

SUMMER 2011 SEVERE WEATHER AND WIND STORM EVENTS

<http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/disasters/storm2011.html>

June 26: Severe Storms

- **State** Individual Assistance: Marion County

July 10-11: Severe Storms and Wind

- Governor's Proclamation for Resources: Benton, Marshall, Story and Tama Counties
- **State** Individual Assistance: Benton, Marshall and Tama Counties

July 13: Severe Storms and Flooding

- **State** Individual Assistance: Dickinson County

July 27: Severe Storms and Flooding

- Governor's Proclamation for Resources: Dubuque County

News and Updates:

- **NEW – Governor Branstad Issues Disaster Proclamation** – On July 28, Governor Branstad issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency for Dubuque County due to the severe weather and 10-14” of heavy rainfall of Wednesday, July 27. The Dubuque County emergency management coordinator also requested both public and individual assistance damage assessments be conducted as soon as possible.
- **NEW – Preliminary Damage Assessments** – Public Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) were requested for Clay, Dickinson, Dubuque and Jackson Counties and are expected to be underway today. Individual Assistance PDAs were requested for Jackson and Dubuque Counties and are expected to be underway on Wednesday.
- **Governor Branstad Requests Presidential Declaration** – On July 27, Governor Branstad submitted a major disaster declaration request to President Obama for Benton, Marshall, Story and Tama Counties. Governor Branstad requested a Major Disaster for Public Assistance for the counties in response to the severe weather and windstorms that began on July 9. The windstorms caused widespread damage and resulted in large amounts of debris. The State may ask for additional counties to be added if the damage warrants such a request.

State Response Summary:

- **Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD)**
 - HSEMD continues to work closely with various local, state, federal, voluntary and faith-based organizations as well as private partners, and continues to field calls and provide assistance on a 24-hour basis to local emergency management officials.
- **Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS)**
 - **NEW** – The Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program is in place for Benton, Dickinson, Marshall and Tama counties affected by the July storms.
- **Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC)**
 - **NEW** – The DOC is providing inmate assistance with debris removal in Benton County.

- **Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT)**
 - **NEW** – Debris removal assistance to the City of Marshalltown is expected to continue throughout this week. DOT expects another week working in Vinton.