

## Gov. Branstad designates Jan. 19-25 Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

DES MOINES – Governor Terry Branstad has designated the week of Jan. 19-25, 2014, as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week in Iowa.

The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) and the Iowa Emergency Response Commission (IERC) recognize the third full week in January as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. The goal is to provide Iowans a better understanding about hazardous materials, their proper use, storage, and disposal, and the emergency response actions that can help minimize unnecessary accidents and exposure.

### Some things you can do to ensure your family's safety:

- Store all household products according to the instructions on the label.
- Keep chemicals and medication out of reach of children.
- **Never** mix household chemicals together! They may react, ignite, or explode.
- Read the instructions on how to dispose of chemicals properly. If possible, recycle or reuse leftover hazardous materials. If you're not sure how to safely store, or where to dispose specific materials, visit the **Iowa Department of Natural Resources'** website at [www.SafeSmartSolutions.org](http://www.SafeSmartSolutions.org).
- Put the number of the **Iowa Poison Control** center by the telephone, and save it in your mobile phone: **1-800-222-1222 (Voice/TTY)**

Brochures and fact sheets about hazardous materials safety are available for download on [www.BeReady.iowa.gov](http://www.BeReady.iowa.gov), and additional information can be found on HSEMD's [Facebook](#) page and [Twitter](#) feed, where updates will be posted throughout the week.

The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management leads, coordinates and supports homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

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