



# SECURE & PREPARED

July 13, 2012

## Volume 8, Issue 13

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- IERC welcomes new member* 3
- Des Moines County StormReady* 3
- Register now for 9th Annual Homeland Security Conference* 3
- Training Opportunities* 4
- Public hearing on drought* 4
- HSEMD new website address* 5

## On the Calendar...

**July**  
National Fireworks Safety Month

**September**  
Family Preparedness Month

## FEMA reverses decision to deny benefits for Lakewood and Lake Delhi

Recent decisions by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may allow federal funds to be used for disaster recovery projects at two Iowa lakes.



*View from below the Lake Delhi Dam breach. (Photo by FEMA.)*

Earlier this month, FEMA notified the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) that they had approved the second appeals filed in 2011 by the Combined Lake Delhi Recreational Facility and Water Quality District in Delaware County and the Lakewood Benefited Recreational Lake District in Warren County. FEMA had originally said the districts did not qualify for funding because

they were not government entities. With the approval of these appeals, both districts may be eligible to receive disaster assistance.

“We are delighted that FEMA has done the right thing and that these

*Continued on Page 2...*

## HSEMD to lead interstate flood risk management team along Missouri River

In its current role as the lead state agency in the Iowa Silver Jackets Flood Risk Management Team, HSEMD’s Recovery Bureau is following through on an innovative recommendation which resulted from the work of the Missouri River Flood Recovery Coordination Task Force, which was formed by Governor Brandstad in 2011.

On April 3, 2012, the Interagency Levee Work Group of the Task Force, with the assistance of HSEMD, organized and conducted a meeting of 30 representatives of 15 state and federal agencies with authority for and that had been involved in flood risk management in Nebraska and Iowa. The intent of the meeting was to gather input and guidance to help

*Continued on Page 2...*

## FEMA reverses decision to deny benefits for Lakewood, Lake Delhi

...Continued from Page 1

two communities may now be awarded the funding they need to recover," said Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division Administrator Mark Schouten. "HSEMD staff have worked tirelessly in cooperation with both districts for several years to secure the assistance they are entitled to receive."

The Lakewood Benefited Recreational Lake District had applied for Public Assistance funding for damages sustained in the floods of 2008. FEMA had initially approved the request and had already promised to pay or "obligated" \$9.2 million in federal funding to the district and its residents. In August of last year, however FEMA reversed this decision and declared the district

ineligible. At the same time, FEMA also requested reimbursement for \$290,716 it had already paid to Lakewood. Lakewood's first appeal of FEMA's reversal, filed in October 2010, was denied. They filed their second appeal in July 2011.

On July 24, 2010, the Lake Delhi earthen dam failed and sent water surging downstream, just two years after the area suffered major damage from the same 2008 disaster that affected Lakewood. In August 2010, Lake Delhi submitted its request for Public Assistance funding, however FEMA declared the district ineligible. At that time, FEMA also said that the nearly \$7.8 million in funds that had been applied for and obligated in 2008 to the Combined Lake Delhi

Recreational Facility and Water District had been obligated in error, and that Lake Delhi needed to reimburse FEMA for monies it had dispersed for that disaster, a total of nearly \$3.6 million. Lake Delhi's first appeal of FEMA's reversal, filed in October 2010, was denied. They filed their second appeal in May 2011.

HSEMD and FEMA will now work with both districts to determine what is eligible for assistance under FEMA's scope of work.

Additional information, along with copies of the letters from FEMA and HSEMD, are available on HSEMD's website: [www.homesecurity.iowa.gov/news\\_room/press\\_releases.html](http://www.homesecurity.iowa.gov/news_room/press_releases.html). Ω

## HSEMD to lead interstate flood risk management team

...Continued from Page 1

the State of Iowa consider potential flood risk/flood damage reduction measures along the Missouri River. Participants recommended that the states of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri cooperate to address nonstructural alternatives for flood risk management along the Missouri River to reduce future flood impacts.



*Flooding of Missouri River near Hamburg, Iowa.*

The Iowa Silver Jackets team, comprised of state and federal agencies engaged in flood risk management, has worked since the floods of 2008 to reduce the threat, vulnerability and consequences of flooding through-

out the State of Iowa. Silver Jackets from all four states, for the first time, will collaborate to consider nonstructural alternatives along both sides of the Missouri River. The expectation is that the knowl-

edge and experience gained through this effort will be applied to future long-term recovery operations, led by HSEMD, along the Mississippi River and river systems throughout the state to reduce the potential impact of future Iowa floods.

For more information about Iowa Silver Jackets visit [www.nfrmp.us/state/factlowa.cfm](http://www.nfrmp.us/state/factlowa.cfm). Additional information about flood risk management nonstructural alternatives can be found at [www.corpsnedmanuals.us/FloodDamageReduction/FDRID094NonstrucFldDmgMeas.asp?ID=94](http://www.corpsnedmanuals.us/FloodDamageReduction/FDRID094NonstrucFldDmgMeas.asp?ID=94). Ω

## Des Moines County StormReady Certification renewed until 2015

Recently Des Moines County had its StormReady community recognition renewed by the National Weather Service (NWS). The original certification was earned in July of 2006 and has now been extended until June 2015 due to the efforts of the volunteer SKYWARN organization operation.

“In particular, the Des Moines County SKYWARN group has become a cornerstone of the community-NWS partnership during severe weather and one of the top programs of its kind in the region,” said Donna Dubberke, chair of the Tri-State StormReady Advisory Board.

Des Moines County SKYWARN was organized in 2005 and is currently made up of 47 individuals

who volunteer their time, energy and resources to the county by storm spotting during potential and actual tornado or thunderstorm events that may impact the county and surrounding areas.



“Thankfully 2012 has been a quiet year when it comes to severe weather for our area,” said Gina Hardin, the emergency management coordinator who manages the SKYWARN organization in

Des Moines County. “However, these volunteers, along with members of some of the volunteer fire departments within the county, stand ready to observe the current weather conditions and provide ground truth reports to the National Weather Service.” According to Hardin, these real-time reports are then used by the NWS in their

*Continued on Page 5...*

## IERC welcomes new member

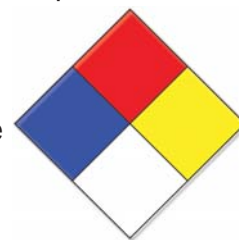
The Iowa Emergency Response Commission (IERC) welcomes a new member appointed by Governor Branstad on June 30.

Robin Praisner will replace Kevin Klommhaus as the representative for the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS).

She is the state entomologist, but also wears many other hats as the bureau chief for the Entomology and Plant Science Bureau, the acting bureau chief for the Weights and Measures Bureau, and as the agriculture security coordinator for IDALS. Her office is located at the Iowa Laboratory Facility on the Des Moines Area Community College campus in Ankeny.

“Robin’s background and expertise will be a valuable asset to the IERC,” said HSEMD’s Paul Sadler, commission administrator.

Praisner was appointed to the IERC to fill the term of Kevin Klommhaus, who resigned from IDALS to take a job with the Food and Drug Administration. Klommhaus represented IDALS as a non-voting, advisory member on the IERC since 2001 and was reappointed to the IERC this year. Praisner will fill the remainder of Klommhaus’ term, which expires in April 2015.



## Register now for the 9th Annual Homeland Security Conference!



The 9th Annual Homeland Security Conference will be held Nov. 6-7, 2012, at the Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center at Veteran’s Memorial in Des Moines. Visit our website at [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov) for details. Ω

## Training opportunities

### Fundamentals of Emergency Management (IS 230.a)

**When:** July 25–26  
8 a.m.–4 p.m.  
**Where:** Camp Dodge  
7105 NW 70th Ave.  
Johnston



All communities are vulnerable to a variety of hazards. Emergency management provides a structure for anticipating and dealing with emergency incidents.

### Planning for the Needs of Children in Disaster (G366)

**When:** July 27  
9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  
**Where:** 106 Milwaukee Hall  
Charles City

The purpose of this workshop is to provide guidance for emergency managers and other agencies, organizations, and those who implement children's programs on meeting the unique needs that arise among children as a result of a disaster or emergency.

### Donations Management Workshop (G288)

**When:** Aug. 8, 1–4:30 p.m.  
Aug. 9, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Manchester Fire Dept.  
400 E. Main St.  
Manchester

The goal of this workshop is to learn the key requirements for managing masses of unsolicited donated goods and large numbers of unaffiliated or spontaneous volunteers.

### Intermediate Incident Command System (ICS 300)

**When:** Aug. 28-29  
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
**Where:** 260 E. Prospect St.  
New Hampton

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

### Advanced Incident Command System (ICS 400)

**When:** Aug. 30-31  
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
**Where:** 260 E. Prospect St.  
New Hampton

This course is targeted toward command or general staff, select department heads with multi-agency coordination system responsibilities, emergency managers, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center managers. Prerequisites: ICS 100, 200, 300, 700 and 800.

For more information visit [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov) and choose "HSEMD Course Registration" under the "Quick Links" tab. Ω

## Governor to hold meeting to discuss drought conditions

Gov. Terry Branstad and Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds will hold a two-hour public meeting on the severe dry and drought conditions that have plagued Iowa this summer. The event will be held July 17 at the Mt. Pleasant High School gymnasium, and members of the public are encouraged and welcome to attend.

The public meeting will feature officials from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, and the United States Department of Agriculture. Outside expert testimony will feature agricultural groups and environmental experts.

The discussion will include the latest information and tracking metrics, how coordination is being handled between the state and federal levels, and potential action steps that may be taken in order to ensure Iowa's needs are met.

Meeting details:

**When:** July 17, 9 a.m.  
**Where:** Mt. Pleasant High School gymnasium  
2104 S. Grand Ave.,  
Mount Pleasant

The public is invited to share their thoughts and concerns. Ω

## Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division

A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense

Administrator  
Mark Schouten

7105 N.W. 70th Avenue  
Camp Dodge, Bldg. W-4  
Johnston, IA 50131

Phone: 515.725.3231  
Fax: 515.725.3260

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

**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 at [stefanie.bond@iowa.gov](mailto:stefanie.bond@iowa.gov).

### News Team

Stefanie Bond  
Laura Carlson  
Tara Dowd  
Katie Ewing  
Beth Lewis  
Amy Meston  
Lucinda Robertson  
Jessica Turba

### 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)

## Des Moines County is StormReady

...Continued from Page 3

weather reporting products to warn others in the path of the storm of the severe weather threat.

“Achieving and maintaining Storm-Ready recognition is a significant

accomplishment and demonstrates

a long-term commitment to preparing for all kinds of severe weather and saving lives, both locally and as part of the complete warning process,” said

Dubberke, of the Tri-State Storm-

Ready Advisory Board. “The continued improvements implemented since the original recognition demonstrate exceptional commitment to the safety of residents, visitors, and neighbors of Des Moines County.”

StormReady is a program aimed at arming America’s communities with the communication and safety skills necessary to save lives and protect property. There are only 15 Storm-Ready counties within the state of Iowa and 931 counties nationwide.

With 90 percent of all presidentially-declared disasters being weather related, leading to around 500 deaths per year and nearly \$14 billion in damage, StormReady was designed to help America’s communities

guard against the ravages of severe weather.

StormReady communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through advanced planning, education and awareness.

No community is storm proof, but StormReady can help communities save lives.

For more information on the Storm-Ready program visit [www.storm-ready.noaa.gov/](http://www.storm-ready.noaa.gov/).

***Do you have news you’d like to share about your county or community? Please submit your story ideas to HSEMD newsletter editors at [HSEMDPIO@iowa.gov](mailto:HSEMDPIO@iowa.gov).*** Ω

*“...the Des Moines County SKY-WARN group has become a cornerstone of the community-NWS partnership during severe weather and one of the top programs of its kind in the region.”*

## HSEMD website gets new address

HSEMD’s website has officially moved to its new online address: [www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov).



The site’s former address, [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org), will be active into 2013, however, those with links to pages on HSEMD’s site should make the change prior to the new year. Ω