After some rough spring weather, Iowa has had four Governor’s Disaster Proclamations covering 33 counties, and one Presidential Disaster Declaration for five counties granted so far in 2013. Joint preliminary damage assessments (PDAs) are also wrapping up this week in southeast Iowa to determine if Governor Branstad should ask for a second Presidential declaration.

The first storms, which occurred April 9-10, caused Branstad to issue a disaster proclamation on April 11 for 10 counties in northwest Iowa: Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Kossuth, Lyon, O’Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth and Sioux. The proclamation allowed for state resources to be used to help the counties respond and recover from the effects of the storms, including debris removal on public and private property that would threaten public health and safety.

Five of those counties also received a Presidential declaration for the same storm: Dickinson, Lyon, O’Brien, Osceola and Sioux. Because of the Presidential declaration, federal recovery programs are now available to businesses, public entities, and certain eligible nonprofits.

A second set of storms moved through Iowa on April 17. Branstad has issued three disaster proclamations as a result of those storms, covering 23 counties: Appanoose, Cedar, Clinton, Davis, Decatur, Des Moines, Iowa, Jefferson, Johnson, Keokuk, Lee, Lucas, Mahaska, Marion, Monroe, Muscatine, Ringgold, Scott, Van Buren, Wapello, Warren, Washington and Wayne. The proclamations have made available state assistance to public entities, as well as the Iowa Individual Assistance program to residents.

Continued on Page 3...
Brenda Brock retires

Brenda Brock, the current meteorologist-in-charge of the Johnston National Weather Service office, is retiring after 46 years of service to the federal government.

There will be an open house held for Ms. Brock’s retirement at the National Weather Service in Johnston on May 29, 2013, from 1–4 pm.

If you are planning to attend, please contact Jeff Johnson at jeff.johnson@noaa.gov. If there is severe weather, the event will be held on May 30.

Congrats, Brenda!

ShakeOut moves to October

The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut is moving from February to October. Beginning this year, the ShakeOut will be held on the third Thursday in October. This year, the ShakeOut will be held Oct. 17 at 10:17 a.m.

The purpose of the move is to align it with larger annual national ShakeOut efforts.

Johnson County’s Dvorak gets certified

Plans Officer B.J. Dvorak of Johnson County Emergency Management Agency has earned his Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) certification from the International Association of Emergency Managers. Way to go, B.J.!

LEPC/TERC conference to be held in July

The 2013 Region VII Local Emergency Planning Committee/Tribal Emergency Response Commission Emergency Planning and Response Conference will be held July 25-27 in Overland Park, Kan. This year’s conference will have four concurrent training sessions on day one, and five tracks on the second and third days, each dealing with a different aspect of emergency planning and response.

The Iowa Emergency Response Commission sets aside $10,000 to help send Iowa LEPC members to this conference. The financial assistance is on a first come, first served basis. To take advantage of this financial assistance, send an email request by close of business on July 1 to Paul Sadler at paul.sadler@iowa.gov.

For more information on this conference, visit www.marc.org/gti/lepc-terc.
Secure & Prepared

Legislative update

The General Assembly is in the final stages of the 2013 session, and by the time this is published they may have very well concluded their work for the year. But some very important action has occurred since the last update.

HF 644 was passed by both chambers and awaits the governor’s signature. This is the E-911 bill that will equalize the wire and wireless surcharge across the state at $1; this was a big effort by members of the public safety community and will provide much needed financial support to local answering points and the agencies they support. It is important to note that of the 150 votes cast, there were only 11 “no” votes. A very impressive result.

So with the session finishing up, we begin looking to next year and formulating ideas for any needed legislation.

[Submitted by John Benson, HSEMD legislative liaison] Ω

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Presidential declaration

...Continued from Page 1

In addition, Iowa HSEMD staff has been working with local and federal personnel since Monday, May 13 to conduct joint PDAs in 19 of those counties (all but Jefferson, Mahaska, Scott and Washington counties) to determine if Governor Branstad should ask for a Presidential Disaster Declaration for federal Public Assistance (PA). Those PDAs are planned to wrap up today. And, just this afternoon, the state has asked FEMA to conduct joint PDAs in five counties for PA as a result of heavy snow and high winds from May 1-3: Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Warren and Wayne. No governor’s proclamation has been issued for that storm. Ω

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ON THE CALENDAR

MAY
National Police Week (12-18)
National EMS Week (19-25)
National Public Works Week (19-25)
Memorial Day (27)*

JUNE
National Safety Month
National CPR & AED Awareness Week (1-7)
Heat Awareness Day (6)
Lightning Safety Awareness Week (23-29)

*State holiday.
HSEMD offices will be closed.

Register now!

Registration for the 10th Annual Homeland Security Conference is now available online! Visit http://hsemdconference.iowa.gov/ to secure your spot now! Ω

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John Benson

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EMS
ONE MISSION. ONE TEAM.
National EMS Week
Training opportunities

A.L.I.C.E. Training
When: May 20-21, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Iowa State Extension
2012 North I St.
Oskaloosa
Contact: Liz Manion, mmanion@storycounty.com.

A.L.I.C.E. Training
When: June 3-4
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: SECC Building
1100 East 46th St.
Davenport
Contact: Ross Bergen, scema@msn.com.

A.L.I.C.E. Instructor Training
When: June 3–4
Where: Luther College
Valders Hall of Science Auditorium V-206
Decorah
Contact: Liz Manion, mmanion@storycounty.com.

A.L.I.C.E. Instructor Training
When: June 5–6
Where: Area Education Agency
824 Flindt Drive
Storm Lake
Contact: Liz Manion, mmanion@storycounty.com.

A.L.I.C.E. Training
When: June 6–7
Where: Centerville High School
600 CHS Dr.
Centerville
Contact: Mike Lamb, adlmema@iowatelecom.net.

LEPC Workshop
When: June 6
8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.
Where: North IA Area CC
500 College Drive
Mason City
This workshop is an orientation to the purpose, duties, and legal responsibilities of Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs).
Contact: Paul Sadler, 515.725.3250
or paul.sadler@iowa.gov, or Lisa Sexton, 515.725.3213 or lisa.sexton@iowa.gov.

A.L.I.C.E. Training
When: June 6–7
Where: West Central Valley H.S.
3299 White Pole Rd.
Stuart
Contact: David Reha, dwreha@stuart911.com.

A.L.I.C.E. Training
When: June 6–7
Where: Sioux Center H.S.
550 9th St. NE
Sioux Center
Contact: Nate Huizenga, nateh@siouxcounty.org.

A.L.I.C.E. Training
When: June 13–14
Where: Madrid Elementary
213 W. First St.
Madrid
Contact: Dave Morlan, davem@boonecounty.iowa.gov.

A.L.I.C.E. Training
When: June 17–18
Where: West Marshall H.S.
601 3rd St. NW
State Center
Contact: Kim Elder, kelder@co.marshall.ia.us.

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Multi-State Partnership celebrates 10 years

The Multi-State Partnership for Security in Agriculture (MSP) has provided a platform for regional collaboration for food and agricultural security issues for 10 years. Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, along with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, were integral in the development of the MSP. HSEMD continues to this day as the coordinating agency. The consortium Midwestern states has expanded from nine to 15, as the value of the MSP projects and collaboration efforts have been recognized. It is understood that a major animal or food emergency would not respect state boundaries and that cooperation and collaboration would benefit all.

In 2001, the Sept. 11 attacks and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak in the United Kingdom were two events that overwhelmed normal response capabilities. The public’s confidence in the ability of the government to respond to emergencies was upended.

During an outbreak, people want to know why someone was not already working on how to deal with FMD. How could this have happened? How will we address this threat moving forward? After the U.K. struggled with its major FMD outbreak, people wondered if the U.S. was prepared to handle such a crisis. After all, FMD is considered to be one of the most economically-disruptive animal health emergencies we could face.

In the past 10 years, federal, state, academic and industry animal health professionals, as well as emergency responders, have made great strides in the promotion of biosecurity measures to prevent the introduction of FMD. Major improvements have been made in the development of incident command-based response strategies to coordinate in a complex response environment and improvements in FMD vaccines that expand the response options in a FMD outbreak. The MSP continues to facilitate the integrated view of preparedness and response to include local, state, regional, and federal cooperation and collaboration to meet this complex challenge. Preparedness activities continue to include the agriculture, health, and emergency response sectors, which all will have an important role in any future outbreak. Ω
Heat Awareness Day is June 6

The National Weather Service (NWS) is again partnering with HSEMD to promote Heat Awareness Day in Iowa on June 6.

Heat is one of the most deadly weather phenomena. According to the NWS, in a normal year, more people die on average due to excessive heat than floods, lightning, tornadoes and hurricanes combined.

In Iowa, summer means two things: heat and humidity. Both combine to create conditions which tax the human body beyond its natural cooling abilities. Heat is a silent killer, and knowing the dangers of summer heat and how to prepare for it can save lives.

There are some things you can do to minimize your risk for heat-related illness or death:

- Eat well-balanced, light meals.
- Drink plenty of water regularly. Persons who have epilepsy or heart, kidney, or liver disease; are on fluid-restrictive diets; or have a problem with fluid retention should consult a doctor before increasing liquid intake.
- Limit intake of alcoholic beverages, which can cause further body dehydration.
- Take salt tablets only if specified by your physician.

Children and cars: A lethal combination

According to the Department of Geosciences at San Francisco State University, 32 children in the U.S. died in 2012 from hyperthermia, after being left in parked vehicles.

Hyperthermia occurs when the body absorbs more heat than it can dissipate, and can occur even on a mild day. Studies have shown that the temperature inside a parked vehicle can rapidly rise to a dangerous level for children, adults and pets. Leaving the windows slightly open does not significantly decrease the heating rate. The effects can be more severe on children (and dogs) because their bodies warm at a faster rate than adults.

NEVER leave your child unattended in a vehicle, even with the windows down. Beat the heat: check the backseat!

Protect your pets

Don’t exercise your dog when it’s warm. Instead, exercise early in the morning or late at night, or where he can cool off in water. Remember, your dog can overheat when you’re just feeling “warm.”

If your pet does show any signs of distress due to overheating, take him to the vet immediately.

For more information on keeping your entire family safe from summer heat, visit www.beready.iowa.gov.

There’s an app for that! Download the “Baby Reminder” app for iPhone or “Don’t Forget Your Baby” app for android devices (both free!) Visit www.beready.iowa.gov/be_aware/heat.html to link to both!
**Training opportunities**

...Continued from Page 4

**A.L.I.C.E. Training**

**When:** June 17–18  
**Where:** Dubuque EMA Office  
14928 Public Safety Way  
Dubuque  

Contact: **Tom Berger**, dbqema@yousq.net.

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**A.L.I.C.E. Training**

**When:** June 27–28  
**Where:** Burlington Memorial Auditorium  
200 Front St.  
Burlington  

Contact: **Andrew James**, ajames@storycounty.com.

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**EOC Management & Operations (G775)**

**When:** June 25, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
June 26, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Pocahontas Community Hospital  
606 NW 7th St.  
Pocahontas  

This is a two-day course. Register at [http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training](http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training). For more information, contact: **Susan Green** at susan.green@iowa.gov or 515.725.3243, or **Beth Lewis** at beth.lewis@iowa.gov or 515.725.3204.

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**Effective Communication (IS-242a)**

**When:** July 23–24  
8 a.m.–4 p.m.  
**Where:** Camp Dodge, Bldg. B62  
7105 NW 70th Ave.  
Johnston  

Register at [http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training](http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training). For more information, contact: **Susan Green** at susan.green@iowa.gov or 515.725.3243, or **Beth Lewis** at beth.lewis@iowa.gov or 515.725.3204.

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**Safe Schools**

**When:** July 30  
9 a.m.–4 p.m.  
**Where:** Buena Vista University Schaller Memorial Chapel  
610 W. Fourth St.  
Storm Lake  

Join the Storm Lake Police Department and Iowa LEIN Region 1 Information Sharing Office in welcoming Lt. Col. Dave Grossman for a FREE full-day presentation of “Safe Schools.” Intended audience includes school staff and educators, emergency managers, campus security, fire, and EMS personnel.  

[Click here to register.](http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training)  

Questions? Contact **Michelle Skaff** at 712.899.3757 or miskaff@siouxcity.org. Ω