



Secure & Prepared

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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January 2014

Jan. 19-25 is Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

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.

What is a hazardous material? You can tell by looking at the product's label. If you see any of the following words, it is a safe bet that it's a hazardous material: **caution, danger, poison, warning.** Some common examples of



hazardous materials you may find in your home: medications, cleaning products, paint thinners, pesticides, nail polish remover, and many automotive products.

To ensure your family's safety, start by:

- Storing all household products according to the instructions on the label.
- Keeping chemicals and medication out of reach of children.

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Funding opportunities announced for EMPG and HSGP grant programs

The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management on Jan. 13 announced that funding opportunities for the 2014 Emergency Management Performance



Grant (EMPG) and Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) are now posted online and the application period is open. The deadline for submission is Feb. 28, 2014, at 5 p.m.

EMPG and HSGP are funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Federal appropriations and funding opportunity announcements have not been announced this year. HSEMD is moving forward with the application phase per FEMA's recommendation for states to begin planning projects for 2014.

Specific information and resources for EMPG and HSPG are available within the specific funding opportunity posted at www.iowaGrants.gov. From the home screen, select "Grant Opportunities," then select the title of the funding opportunity you wish to access.

EMPG eligibility and training

Eligible applicants for EMPG are Iowa emergency management commissions meeting criteria identified in Iowa Administrative Code 605 - Chapter 7.7(1).

Two EMPG application training webinars are still available. Register for one of the sessions listed below by clicking on the date. Once regis-

tered, you will receive an email confirming your registration with information to join the webinar.

- **Jan. 30, 2014, 9-11 a.m.**
- **Feb. 5, 2014, 9-11 a.m.**

HSGP eligibility and training

Eligible applicants for HSGP include: state government agencies; county, city, municipal, and tribal government; school districts; councils of government and tribal councils; institutions of higher education (colleges, community colleges and universities); nonprofit organizations including hospitals.

One HSGP application training webinar is still available. Register for the session below by clicking on the date. Once registered, you will receive an email confirming your registration with information to join the webinar.

- **Jan. 27, 2014, 2-3:30 p.m.**

For more information, contact **Tricia Boggs** about EMPG and **Annette Mansheim** about HSGP, by email or at **515.725.3231**. Ω

Hazardous Materials Awareness Week

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- **Never** mixing household chemicals together! They may react, ignite, or explode.
- Reading 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 of specific materials, visit the **Iowa Department of Natural Resources'** website at www.SafeSmartSolutions.org.
- Putting 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 the Be Ready Iowa website, and additional information can be found on HSEMD's **Facebook** page and **Twitter** feed, where updates will be posted throughout the week. Ω

Fort Calhoun nuclear plant resumes operation

After spending more than two and a half years offline, the Fort Calhoun Power Station (FCS) resumed generating power in December 2013.

The station was shut down for a refueling outage in April 2011, but the shutdown was extended after extensive flooding of the plant property by the Missouri River (the plant is located adjacent to the river). Under its procedures, the plant declared a "Notification of Unusual Event," the lowest emergency classification by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The emergency classification remained in place for 84

days during the flood. The Omaha Public Power District, the station's owner, took numerous flood protective actions, including the installation of berms and temporary "aqua berms" around main buildings. As flood waters receded, work began to assess and correct the flood's impact on station operations. Flood repairs included the replacement of numerous underground conduits and electrical lines. FCS shut down to address longstanding technical issues, as well as to recover from flood damage. The NRC spent more than 23,000 hours reviewing all repairs and improvements to the plant

and finally gave the green light for the FCS to restart last month.

Even though the FCS had been shut down, offsite emergency planning, training, and exercise efforts were ongoing. A successful full-scale exercise was conducted on Dec. 3, 2013, where offsite authorities from Harrison and Pottawattamie counties and the State of Iowa tested the state's Radiological Emergency Preparedness Plan.

[Submitted by Kathy Stodola, HSEMD Radiological Emergency Preparedness planner.] Ω



Fort Calhoun Station

Donate and save a life: January is National Volunteer Blood Donor Month

Every two seconds, someone somewhere needs blood. However, less than 10 percent of eligible donors in the U.S. give blood. A healthy adult can give blood every 56 days, and donating is safe and easy! Donors are screened by health professionals each time they donate, and all blood undergoes lab testing to ensure that it is safe for transfusion.



Blood is a living tissue that cleans and nourishes the human body. It is fragile, cannot be manufactured, and can only be stored for a limited time. We all need blood. Nine out of 10 people

who live to age 70 will use donated blood sometime in their lifetime.

You can help! Start the process to become a donor now at www.americasblood.org. Or log onto the LifeServe Blood Center (formerly the Blood Center of Iowa and Siouxland Community Blood Bank) at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org. Ω

Training opportunities



Basic Public Information Officer Course (G-290) **NEW!**

When: Feb. 20-21, 2014
8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Where: ISU Extension Office
212 North I St.
Oskaloosa

This two-day course will equip participants with the basic skills needed to be a full- or part-time public information officer (PIO), such as oral and written communications, understanding and working with the media, and other basic tools and techniques.

The target audience for this course includes PIOs, local elected officials, and emergency management professionals.

Register online at www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training. For more information, contact: **Susan Green** (susan.green@iowa.gov) or **Beth Lewis** (beth.lewis@iowa.gov) at 515.725.3231.

Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents (ICS-300) **NEW!**

When: Feb. 22-23, 2014
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Johnson County EOC
4529 Melrose Ave.
Iowa City

The second of two ICS 300 courses being offered in Johnson County in February (first offering is full). Typically, this course is required for personnel serving in command and general staff roles in an ICS organization, select department heads with multi-agency coordination system responsibilities, area managers, emergency managers, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center managers.

To register, contact **B.J. Dvorak** at bjdvorak@jecc-ema.org or **319.356.6762**.

Medical Management of CBRNE Events **NEW!**

When: Feb. 25-26, 2014
Where: Johnson County EOC
4529 Melrose Ave.
Iowa City

Participants completing this two-day program will be able to properly perform patient triage, decontamination, treatment, and transportation in the event of exposure to chemical,

biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) weapons.

The target audience for this course includes EMS technicians and paramedics, fire and HazMat personnel, law enforcement, public health, physicians and physicians assistants, emergency management professionals, and hospital/medical treatment facility personnel.

It is also recommended that participants complete two online courses before attending the course. The courses are offered at **no cost** to the participant. Visit www.teexwmdcampus.com and complete AWR-111 (Basic EMS Concepts for WMD Incidents) and AWR-160 (WMD/Terrorism Awareness for Emergency Responders).

Registration instructions are available online at <https://johnsoncountymaclass.eventbrite.com>. For more information, contact **Dave Wilson** at **319.356.6761**.

Social Media for Natural Disaster Response and Recovery **NEW!** (Two courses offered)

When: March 18, 2014
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Iowa Western CC
2700 College Road
Council Bluffs

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Training opportunities

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AND

When: March 20, 2014
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Coralville Fire Station #1
1501 Fifth St.
Coralville



This course will provide the knowledge and skills in social media and its uses with current tools, methods, and models to properly make use of social media for crisis communication.

The target audience for this course includes government agency personnel, emergency management professionals, first responders, planners, non-profit organization personnel.

Register online at <http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training>. For more information, contact: **Susan Green** (susan.green@iowa.gov) or **Beth Lewis** (beth.lewis@iowa.gov) at 515.725.3231.

Medical Preparedness and Response to Bombing Incidents (PER-233) *NEW!*

When: March 24-25, 2014
8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Where: Johnson County EOC
4529 Melrose Ave.
Iowa City

This course addresses medical preparedness for and response to blast effects through a combination of lectures, small group activities and tabletop participant exercises. Participants will gain an enhanced understanding and awareness of issues and considerations relating to bombing incidents.

To register, go to <http://jcema.eventbrite.com>. For more information, contact **Dave Wilson** at 319.356.6761.

Wide Area Search (PER-213) *NEW!*

When: April 8-10, 2014
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Johnson County EOC
4529 Melrose Ave.
Iowa City

This three-day course is applicable to jurisdictions that would need to conduct wide area searches due to a natural disaster or terrorist incident.

To register, go to <https://wideareasearch.eventbrite.com>. For more information, contact **Dave Wilson** at 319.356.6761.

Public Information in an All-Hazards Incident (MGT-318) *NEW!*

When: April 21-22, 2014
8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Where: Johnson County EOC
4529 Melrose Ave.
Iowa City

This course examines the role of public information in managing an all-hazards incident and provides practical training in crisis communication techniques. In such an incident, it is imperative that community leaders, incident managers, and public information officers are prepared to communicate with the public through the news and social media. The course focuses on the role of public information in incident management, the information needs of the public in a crisis, and the various means of effectively communicating through the news and social media.

To register, go to <https://jcema52.eventbrite.com>. For more information, contact **Dave Wilson** at 319.356.6761. Ω

January is Radon Action Month

Radon is a silent killer. It is an odorless, colorless gas found throughout the U.S. and in high concentrations in Iowa. According to the Surgeon General, indoor radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. and according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, it is the first leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. Every year, radon kills more people than drunk driving accidents, falls in the home, drowning, and house fires **combined**.

The good news is, you can fix a radon problem. Test your home! It's easy and inexpensive. You can get a test kit for as little as \$10 from the American Lung Association. Visit www.healthhouse.org and click on the "Radon" tab at the top of the page for more information. Ω



Iowa Finance Authority launches free rental housing locator



The Iowa Finance Authority now offers a new service that allows greater access to real-time Iowa rental and disaster housing information at IowaHousingSearch.org.

This service is designed to give renters, landlords, housing professionals and social service providers access to detailed information about real-time rental housing vacancies. It will also assist those seeking accessible housing, and in the event of a natural disaster, the service will help the state locate housing for displaced disaster victims.

The Iowa Finance Authority contracted with Socialserve.com to provide this valuable resource.

The Iowa Finance Authority and Socialserve.com have scheduled a webinar opportunity specifically for county emergency management coordinators and other emergency management personnel on Wednesday, Jan. 29, from 9-10 a.m. To register for the webinar, [click here](#).

For more information, please contact **Ashley Jared** at **515.725.4934**. Ω

HSEMD staff departures

Curt Sullivan, asset protection planner with HSEMD's operations division, departed HSEMD on Jan. 17. Sullivan has accepted a position with MidAmerican Energy as a business continuity and risk reduction planner. He had been with the Department since 2004.

Joy Zingler, a disaster project specialist in HSEMD's recovery division, will leave the Department on Feb. 7. Zingler has been with the Department since 2010. Ω

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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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.

Secure & Prepared is published for those involved in the homeland security/emergency management system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact Stefanie Bond at stefanie.bond@iowa.gov.

News Team

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HMEP grant application period open until Jan. 29

The application period for the FFY2015 Hazardous Materials Preparedness Grant will be open until Jan. 29, 2014. Applications are available at www.iowagrants.gov.

Federal requirements for the grant have changed; all training paid from the HMEP grant must meet **NFPA 472 (2013 edition)** and **29 CFR 1910.120**.

Planning documents to assist in the application process can be found at www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/grants/HMEP.html.

For additional information, contact **Lisa Sexton** at lisa.sexton@iowa.gov or **515.725.3231**.

ON THE CALENDAR

JANUARY

National Volunteer Blood Donor Month
National Radon Action Month
Hazardous Materials Awareness Week (19-25)

FEBRUARY

National Burn Awareness Week (2-8)

MARCH

American Red Cross Month
National Poison Prevention Week (16-22)
Severe Weather Awareness Week (24-28)

APRIL

National 9-1-1 Education Month
National Volunteer Week (6-13)

More at www.beready.iowa.gov.