



Secure & Prepared

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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Spread of avian influenza slows in Iowa

Governor requests Presidential Disaster Declaration

The spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in Iowa has slowed in recent weeks. Despite that, response to the outbreak continues as many impacted poultry producers begin work to recover.

More than 32 million chickens and turkeys have been depopulated in an effort to stop the spread of avian influenza at 76 production sites. Disposal of the birds is ongoing, and includes such methods as composting, burial, incineration and placement in landfills.

On June 18, Gov. Terry Branstad sent a letter to President Obama requesting a Presidential Disaster Declaration for four counties impacted by avian influenza. Those counties are Buena Vista, Sioux, Webster and Wright. More counties may be added.



Workers disinfect a truck leaving an infected Iowa poultry farm. Photo by USDA.

The governor requested the assistance in the forms of unemployment assistance, crisis counseling, disaster case management and disaster legal services. A declaration will also allow the Federal Highway Administration to issue a tonnage waiver on the state's federal aid roadways, which would accelerate the disposal process and reduce the likelihood of spreading avian influenza while transporting poultry to disposal sites.

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Avian influenza

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“With a disaster of this magnitude adversely affecting Iowa farmers, producers and the workers they employ, I am requesting federal assistance from President Obama and the Federal Emergency Management Agency,” said Branstad. “Unemployment assistance from the federal government, in addition to efforts already occurring inside our state, will help displaced workers. In addition, issuing a tonnage waiver will allow for efficient disposal and cleanup of affected sites. Given the unprecedented nature of this disaster, it is my hope that the President will expedite this request to provide federal assistance as soon as possible.”

Gov. Branstad issued a proclamation on June 16 to assist with avian influenza clean-up efforts. The proclamation, which covers 18 counties, allows impacted chicken and turkey producers to dispose of manure and compost generated at a premise infected with avian influenza as a bulk dry animal nutrient under Chapter 200A of the Iowa Code. The material can only be moved off-site if the United States Department of Agriculture has certified that the material is virus-free. Normally, only un-manipulated animal manure qualifies for distribution under this code section.

This proclamation only applies to impacted chicken and turkey producers in the 18 counties with

confirmed cases of HPAI. Counties included in this proclamation are: Adair, Buena Vista, Calhoun, Cherokee, Clay, Hamilton, Kosuth, Lyon, Madison, O’Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Sac, Sioux, Webster and Wright.

To date, more than 300 state employees have participated in the disaster response. The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Department of Public Health (in conjunction with local public health officials), Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Department of Transportation, Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals, Iowa Department of Corrections, and Iowa National Guard have all supported the response effort to this disease. Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management activated the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) at the end of April; the State EOC has been partially activated since then.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has more than 2,200 staff and contractors helping respond to the avian influenza situation in Iowa.

For more information, visit the [IDALS website](#). Ω

Save the date for the homeland security annual conference

The 12th Annual Iowa Homeland Security Conference will be held Oct. 20-21, 2015.



This year’s conference will be held at the Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center at Veteran’s Memorial, 833 Fifth Ave., Des Moines.

As in past years, the conference will feature a variety of speakers and opportunities to network with colleagues.

In addition to the conference, a free pre-conference cybersecurity training will be offered on Oct. 19.

Early-bird registration is \$160. After Oct. 1, registration will be \$185. Parking fees are included with each paid registration except for walk-ins.

Visit the conference website to register at www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov and click on the conference logo on the lower left of the home page.

For more information contact HSEMD’s **Cristie Duric** or **Beth Lewis** at 515.725.3231 or via email at HSEMDconf@iowa.gov. Ω

Hazardous materials task force supports avian influenza response

Hazardous materials experts from across the state have been called upon to assist in Iowa's response to highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Twenty members of the Iowa Hazardous Materials Task Force have been activated to assist the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) with the monitoring of bio-security, cleaning and decontamination activities at infected premises and landfills impacted by the avian influenza outbreak. Members of the task force are employed by fire departments from several cities.

In addition, Capt. Mike Cheney of Cedar Rapids Fire Department Hazmat and Special Operations has provided technical assistance to the USDA in the development of cleaning and decontamination procedures for use at impacted sites and landfills.

"It is extremely important to the state of Iowa to get these producers back in operation as quickly as possible to reduce the economic impact," said Iowa Hazardous Materials Task Force member Capt. Scott Hoschek of the Burlington Fire Department. "We are grateful for the opportunity to work with state and federal responders to help mitigate the outbreak." Hoschek added that the monitoring operations at the sites, which include inspecting materials, help to ensure safe transport.

"The disposal mission would be an insurmountable task without this



Photo provided by Iowa Hazardous Materials Task Force.

valuable resource," said Dr. Jack A. Shere, Veterinary Services Associate Deputy Administrator in the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. "USDA does not possess this unique resource that the hazmat team brings to the Task Force to complete these tasks." Ω

Alert Iowa - getting the message out

Iowa counties are getting creative on how they market the new Alert Iowa emergency messaging and notification system.

Eighty-six of Iowa's 99 counties have signed up to use the system, which was launched in October 2014. The system can be used by state and local authorities to quickly disseminate emergency information to residents in counties that utilize the system. County governments themselves do not bear any

of the cost for the service, which is paid for by State general fund monies.

County emergency management coordinators have been proactive when it comes to getting the word out about the free service. Besides using social media to promote use of the system, Clinton County has

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Examples of Alert Iowa marketing include a Winneshiek County billboard (above), and a Clinton County park sign. (right).



Getting the message out with Alert Iowa

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placed signs up in local parks. The signs instruct users on how to text so they receive emergency alerts while they are enjoying the park. Clarke County is now looking at the possibility of implementing similar signs.

In Winneshiek County, you may find a billboard telling you how to get emergency messages.



Ida County Alert Iowa business card with QR code.

And many counties now have business cards with sign-up information that they can distribute at various events.

Those cards include a "QR" code (short for "Quick Response" code) that users can

scan with their smartphones, and be taken directly to the county's sign-up page.

Anyone can sign up to receive alerts in their own county as well as any other county for which they would like to receive alerts.

For additional information on the Alert Iowa system, including links to participating counties, visit www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov.

Puppy Jake Foundation trainee acclimates to the work world at HSEMD

The Puppy Jake Foundation is a nonprofit organization that trains service dogs for wounded military veterans.

Tim Hauber, Deputy Public Assistance officer for HSEMD's Recovery Division, is a volunteer with the organization and has had a Puppy Jake trainee as his office mate at the department's location in Windsor Heights.

Hauber serves as a sitter and fills in for the people who raise the dogs full time and have situations or commitments in which the dogs cannot be involved. For the dogs, that means having the opportunity to explore different environments and to experience everyday life to prepare them for placement with their veteran.

While sitting Parke, a 22-month German shepherd, Hauber integrated her into his daily activities,

including bringing her to work. While at work, Parke sat with him in his office and accompanied him when he left his desk.

Hauber said bringing the dogs to work is a great opportunity to acclimate them to a new environment. He said they work on a variety of skills during their daily activities, including staying focused on their trainer and obeying commands.

"The staff at the Windsor Heights office were great in their support of having a service dog here and were very respectful of the training rules," said Hauber.

Parke has been in training since she was eight weeks old and is scheduled to be placed with a veteran in September.

Hauber recently began sitting for Johnny Orr, a 10-month-old golden retriever, and will be acclimat-



HSEMD's Tim Hauber with Parke, a service dog in training.

ing him to the work world at the HSEMD office.

For more information on the Puppy Jake Foundation, visit <http://puppyjakefoundation.org/>.

Training opportunities

Continuity of Operations & Exercise Design

When: June 29, 2015
8 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Where: 1305 E. Walnut St.
Level A - Room 5
Des Moines

Prerequisites: None.
Recommended online course, IS-546a (Continuity of Operations Awareness)

Target audience: state agency representatives, exercise coordinator, continuity manager, security manager, budget-procurement manager, emergency manager, IT manager, facility manager, essential records manager.

This is a basic level course that provides a comprehensive overview of HSEEP concepts and how it relates to continuity of operations.

To register, visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Jim Marwedel** at **515.725.3249** or jim.marwedel@iowa.gov with any questions.

ICS Train-the-Trainer (L-449)

When: July 7-10, 2015
8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Where: Camp Dodge-Rec Hall
Bldg. 3585 (B57)

Prerequisites: ICS-100, 200, 300, 400, 700, 800

Target audience: Must have: working knowledge of ICS through experience and training; experience delivering adult training; completed all required prerequisite courses; and worked as an incident commander, command or general staff.

To register, visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3249** or cristie.duric@iowa.gov with any questions.

State Long Term Recovery Planning and Operations (E0209)

When: Aug. 3-6, 2015
8 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Where: National Emergency
Training Center
EMI
Emmitsburg, Md,

Prerequisite: IS-2900 (National Disaster Recovery Framework Overview)

Target audience: Personnel from state and tribal agencies who are

involved, or could be involved, with recovery planning and operations.

This course provides participants with skills and knowledge to lead a state or tribe in pre-disaster recovery planning.

Acceptance into the course is selective. For more information or to register, contact **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3249** or cristie.duric@iowa.gov.

ICS EOC Interface (G191)

When: Aug. 13, 2015
9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Where: Wapello County EOC
330 W 2nd St
Ottumwa

Target audience: ICS command staff, emergency management positions, elected officials.

This one-day course describes ICS, identifies the roles and responsibilities of ICS and EOC during emergency operations, applies ICS/EOC interface concepts in an exercise situation, develops ICS/EOC interface action plan.

To register, visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3243** or cristie.duric@iowa.gov with any questions.

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Training opportunities

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Wide Area Search (PER213)

When: Aug. 21-23, 2015
8:30 a.m.

Where: Fire Station
510 Tomar Dr.
Wayne, Neb.

Target audience: Local, state and federal responders who may be required to perform search operations. The target audience also includes all emergency responders from municipal and industrial agencies tasked with performing search operations.

This course is applicable to jurisdictions that would need to conduct wide area searches due to natural disaster or terrorist incident. Participants will learn practical search methods and skills in order to perform systematic searches over a large affected area. This course concludes with a table-top exercise that requires participants to utilize the previous two days of instruction.

To register, contact **Kevin Garvin** at cedarem@hartel.net or **402.254.6862**.

ICS 400-Advanced

When: Aug. 27-28, 2015
8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Where: Marion Co. Public
Health Training
Room
2003 N. Lincoln St.
Knoxville

Prerequisites: ICS 100, 200, 300, 700, 800

Target audience: Disciplines that would respond to an incident: command staff, section chiefs, unit leaders, division/group supervisors, branch directors, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center managers.

This two-day course will help responders be aware of the importance of ICS as well as keep them up to speed on what to expect.

To register, visit **HSEMD's training website**. Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Cristie Duric** at **515.725.3243** or cristie.duric@iowa.gov with any questions. Ω

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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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ON THE CALENDAR

JULY

National Fireworks Safety Month
Independence Day, observed (3)*

*State holiday. HSEMD offices will be closed.

