

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Missouri River Flooding – State Joint Information Center Update

DES MOINES – The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, along with other state and federal agencies, are working closely with local emergency management agencies to prepare communities for the potential impacts of flooding. Currently, Iowa HSEMD is hosting coordination meetings with key state agency and private industry partners every other day.

General State Response

- The State has requested technical assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for all counties along the Missouri River from Woodbury County south.
- Iowa HSEMD is coordinating the move of an 8-inch pump from Iowa City to stage in Council Bluffs.
- Staging areas for water, sandbags and pumps have been established in Avoca, Onawa and Denison.

Iowa Concern Hotline and 2-1-1

Citizens in the affected areas may call the **Iowa Concern Hotline** at **1-800-447-1985**. When flooding is a concern in the state, Iowa State University Extension's Iowa Concern hotline is available for those who need assistance. The Iowa Concern Hotline is available 24 hours a day. All calls are free and confidential, and the operators are willing to assist wherever possible.

In addition, residents may call **2-1-1** with questions or concerns about the flooding and steps they should take. 2-1-1 is an easy to remember telephone number that connects callers to information about critical health and human services available in their community.

Weather

For updated weather information, visit the National Weather Service website at www.weather.gov.

Road Closures and Information

Citizens may find updated road information online at www.511ia.org or by calling 5-1-1 or 1-800-288-1047.

- **Iowa State Highway 2 eastbound:** Right line is closed between the start of IA 2 and County Road L31 (14-15 miles west of the Sidney area) due to flooding. (Fremont County)

- **U.S. Highway 30 in both directions:** Roadway is reduced to one lane between the start of U.S. 30 and County Road K45 (7 miles west of the Missouri Valley area). The roadway is reduced to one lane because of bridge maintenance work. (Harrison County)

Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station in Nebraska

- The plant has been shut down in response to elevated flood waters. The plant is stable and not currently producing energy.
- This plant sits across the Missouri River from Pottawattamie and Harrison counties.

Woodbury County

- Woodbury County remains actively engaged in flood protection activities along the Missouri River. City and county personnel are focused on sandbagging and construction of berms at the critical infrastructure points on Riverfront and Riverside Wells. Sandbags and poly requested and delivered for flood protection. The Woodbury County EOC is open daily from 7 a.m.–7 p.m.
- There were false reports concerning the impact of the flooding at the Sioux City water plant. There are currently no concerns with the Sioux City water plant.

Monona County

- Sandbags have been requested and provided. County officials are constructing an earthen berm around Blencoe to protect the city from floodwaters.
- Monona County Closures:
 - Hazel Ave. from Blencoe exchange north to pumpkin farm.
 - Both roads under the Decatur Bridge.
 - Casino Omaha is closed as of June 1.

Harrison County

- Harrison County has requested and received an additional 150,000 sandbags to enhance the levees near Modale and Missouri Valley.

Pottawattamie County

- Pottawattamie County Conservation has closed the Narrows River. MidAmerican Energy has cut power to residences on Emil Avenue/Gifford Road/Goosehaven and they have purchased HESCO barriers for protection of Walter Scott Station.
- Sandbags have been provided to the communities of Carter Lake, Crescent, and Council Bluffs.
- Three sandbag fillers provided to Council Bluffs.
- The County Emergency Management Agency and the Loess Hills American Red Cross Chapter have established an emergency shelter should it be needed for those displaced by flooding so citizens have a safe place to stay while they make long-term arrangements for housing during this event. Displaced residents should make arrangements to stay with friends or family for 60-90 days based on Army Corps of Engineers information regarding river levels.

- Shelter Status: Shelter #1: STAND-BY: To contact the Red Cross for shelter information or other assistance questions, call 712-322-4017
- Pets in Disaster: Family pets are not allowed at the temporary Red Cross shelter. County residents that have been displaced may temporarily house their pets at the Pottawattamie County Animal Shelter at NO CHARGE. However, space is limited and will be determined on a first come, first serve basis. Upon arrival at the Red Cross Shelter, staff will be able to contact Animal Control personnel to pick up your pet and discuss the sheltering of your pet.
- Road Closures in Pottawattamie County can be found online:
<http://gis3.pottcounty.com/roadclosures/RoadClosures.htm>
 - Big Lake Road (near park)
 - Gifford Road near Dog Bite Lane.

Mills County

- A public meeting will take place at the Glenwood High School auditorium tonight at 7 p.m.
- County Emergency Management flood information online:
<http://www.millscoia.us/flood2011.htm>
- Mills County has established a flood hotline at 712-527-4231
- The Army Corps of Engineers is working identified levee issues, constructing berms and working drainage issues around critical facilities in the cities of Pacific Junction and Glenwood.
- No emergency evacuations have taken place.

Fremont County

- Fremont County is receiving direct assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers to provide emergency repairs to two levees near Hamburg and Percival.
- The south side of Hamburg continues to evacuate due to levee concerns. Heavy machinery is mobilized throughout the town's southern perimeter, building levees and sand bag walls. Mobile homes are being towed out of town.
- Approximately 300 people have been asked to evacuate from Hamburg at this time. The original estimate of evacuated citizens in Hamburg was 600.
- The American Red Cross has opened and is managing a shelter at Sidney High School for displaced residents. No residents were there overnight.
- The Army Corp of Engineers continues to provide technical assistance throughout the county.
- Road Closures in Fremont County
 - Dike Road from 210th Avenue to Highway 2
 - 185th Avenue from Highway 2 to 235th Street
 - 185th Street from 200th Street to 190th Avenue
 - Levy Road from 135th Street
 - 187th Avenue from 135th Street to 155th Street
 - 190th Avenue from Plum Creek to 187th Avenue
 - 310th Street from 240th Avenue to River Access

- 290th Street from 250th Avenue to River
- 290th Street from 250th Avenue to Levee
- Waubonsie Avenue from 200th Avenue to River
- 100th Street from 200th Avenue to River
- 280th Street East of 59 to Fremont Avenue (Closed for Repairs)

Donations and Volunteering

Donations of “stuff” (clothing, miscellaneous food items, household goods, etc.) are NOT needed at this time. This is not the time to clean out your closet to send to those in counties affected by flooding. Unsolicited donations cause additional staffing and storage problems that local officials do not have the resources to manage.

If you want to help, cash is best. It doesn't need to be sorted, stored or distributed, and cash allows the receiving voluntary agency to direct the donation to the most urgent needs. To donate cash, visit www.aidmatrixnetwork.org/CashDonations/Default2.aspx?ST=Iowa

Those wishing to volunteer in a disaster-related capacity may sign up to do so at <https://volunteer.truist.com/icovs/volunteer/register/>.

More Links and Social Media

- Donation, volunteer, county-specific links and more can be found on the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) website at www.iowahomelandsecurity.org.
- Those wishing to follow the events via Twitter should follow and use the hash tag #MORiver. This hash tag will be used throughout the duration of flooding along the Missouri River.
- Additionally, Gov. Branstad's office has set up a webpage, <https://governor.iowa.gov/news/missouri-river-flooding>, for Iowans to get updates on flooding along the Missouri River.

Live Streaming of Today's Daily Flood Briefing

At 3:30 p.m. today, Derek Hill, administrator of Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, will brief members of the media on flooding along the Missouri River. The Office of Governor Terry E. Branstad has partnered with Iowa HSEMD to provide a live stream of the audio for news outlets to embed on their website.

The embed code is attached to this email or can be found at the IGOV/Iowa HSEMD's UStream page, which is dedicated to updating members of the media and the general public on the flooding along the Missouri River. The Ustream page can be found at www.ustream.tv/channel/missouri-river-flooding---iowa. Questions regarding the live streaming can be directed to Jimmy Centers at jimmy.centers@iowa.gov.

For more information, please visit <http://iowahomelandsecurity.org> or <https://governor.iowa.gov/news/missouri-river-flooding>.

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