

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 24, 2011

Contact: State Joint Information Center
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Contact: Governor's Office
515-725-3518

Missouri River Flooding – State Joint Information Center Update

DES MOINES – This update is provided by the Joint Information Center at the State Emergency Operations Center.

NOTE TO MEDIA: The Joint Information Center Media Briefing Conference Call is Cancelled for today

Next call is scheduled for June 27, at 3:30 p.m.

Conference Call Dial-In Number – 1-800-645-8878

Conference Code: 003252

Note: Same conference call information to be used on each call

NEW: Adjutant General to Visit Western Iowa

The Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard, Maj. Gen. Tim Orr, will travel to western Iowa on June 24 to meet with Iowa National Guard soldiers and airmen and emergency management officials. He plans to make visits to the Woodbury County Emergency Operations Center, the Pottawattamie County Emergency Operations Center and the Hamburg levee site. For more information contact Col. Greg Hapgood, public affairs officer, Iowa National Guard.

Residents Impacted by Missouri River Flooding Urged to Report Damages

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division is asking residents and businesses to begin estimating the amount of flood damage to their property. Damage information may be used to assist in the preparation of a request for federal disaster aid.

Read the press release at:

<http://www.governor.iowa.gov/>

http://iowahomelandsecurity.org/news_room/press_releases.html

Presidential Disaster Declaration Request

On June 18, Governor Branstad requested from President Obama a Major Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance for six Iowa counties. The six counties in the request are Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury.

The Governor made the request in response to the ongoing flooding along the Missouri River in Iowa. Local and state agencies have been actively preparing for and responding to flooding conditions along the Missouri River since May 25, 2011.

Status: Request has been processed by the FEMA Region VII office in Kansas City and sent to FEMA Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Read the press release at:

<http://www.governor.iowa.gov/>

http://iowahomelandsecurity.org/news_room/press_releases.html

State Response Summary

- **HSEMD**

- The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) continues to work closely with personnel from various local, state, federal, voluntary and faith-based organizations as well as private partners in response to flooding along the Missouri River in western Iowa. The State Emergency Operations Center will be staffed as warranted to provide response to declared counties.
- HSEMD has requested technical assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers for all counties along the Missouri River from Woodbury County south.

- **DPH**

- **Flood-Related Health Information**

The Iowa Department of Public Health has issued new information on the health-related dangers of flood waters, the emotional toll flooding can have, and healthy habits that are critical during stressful times. See this and other flood-related health information at: www.idph.state.ia.us/EmergencyResponse/Flooding.aspx.

- **Iowa Finance Authority (IFA)**

- IFA has developed a rental housing resource guide for individuals who are seeking long term housing due to flooding. Access the guide at: www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/disasters/disaster2011.html and select “Housing Resources.”

- **IDALS**

- The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is working with the Office of Energy Independence to track pipelines and fuel quality.

- **DHS**

- AmeriCorps is assisting the Disaster Behavioral Health Response Teams (DBHRT) continue distributing information in three counties.

- **Iowa National Guard**
 - The Iowa National Guard is providing levee patrol support in Fremont, Mills, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury counties. AmeriCorps will be assisting on the mission in Fremont County.
 - The Iowa National Guard is assisting county emergency management coordinators with critical infrastructure and other issues, and providing expertise regarding Iowa National Guard assets and capabilities to HSEMD.

- **DOT**
 - The Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) is deploying flood mitigation strategies for Interstate 29 and U.S. Highway 30 near Missouri Valley.
 - The Iowa Department of Transportation has made numerous road closures. For complete information on road closures, visit www.iowadot.gov/floods/index.html or www.511ia.org, or call 5-1-1 or 1-800-288-1047.
 - Call center established for road closures: 1-866-452-851

- **DNR**
 - DNR is providing technical assistance to waste water facilities, water supplies, industry, fuel stations, etc.

- **DOC**
 - The Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC) has crews sandbagging in Mills County. Crews are ready to assist in other communities as requested.

- **DPS**
 - The Department of Public Safety continues to monitor roads, road closures and other public safety issues including assisting local law enforcement with security.

EVACUATION SUMMARY

County	Location	Population
Woodbury		
Monona		Unknown, voluntary
Harrison	Modale	200-300 voluntary evacuation
Pottawattamie	143 homes in the county	unknown

Mills	June 23-mandatory evacuation notice issued for residences/businesses south of Gaston Ave. and west of I-29.	unknown
Fremont	Mandatory evacuation in effect in the South Hamburg area – between Hamburg and the Missouri River (south end of City of Hamburg) June 22-Fremont County issued evacuation orders for all areas of the county west of I-29 from the north county line to the south county line.	300+ unknown

SHELTER SUMMARY – IOWA SHELTERS

County	Location	Population
Woodbury	West Middle School, Sioux City, IA 3301 W. 19th St., Sioux City (Standby Status)	0
Monona	West Monona High School, Onawa, IA 1314 15th St., Onawa	0
Harrison	Missouri Valley, Missouri Valley High School 605 E. Lincoln Highway, Missouri Valley	0
Pottawattamie	Lakin Human Services Campus 915 North 16th St., Council Bluffs	0
Mills	East Mills High School, Malvern Iowa	0
Fremont	Sidney High School, Sidney, IA 2754 Knox Rd., Sidney	0

County updates

- **Woodbury**
 - Ongoing monitoring is occurring as increased release from Gavins Point reaches Sioux City.
 - <http://www.woodburyiowa.com/>
- **Monona**

- **NEW:** The Army Corps of Engineers was requested to provide technical assistance to officials in Onawa concerning construction of protective structure around the water treatment plant.
- <http://www.mononacountypublichealth.org/>
- **Harrison**
 - Five-thousand sandbags are being used in Pisgah to protect their lift station and water treatment plant.
 - <http://www.harrisoncountya.org/>
- **Pottawattamie**
 - The Iowa Mutual Aid Compact was utilized to obtain additional pumps from the City of Davenport in Scott County. Read more about the Iowa Mutual Aid Compact at http://iowahomelandsecurity.org/programs/emac_imac.html.
 - The City of Council Bluffs issued an Alert Level One late June 22, urging citizens to make preparations to leave the area should the need arise.
 - <http://www.pottcounty.com/departments-services/emergency-management/flooding.php>
- **Mills**
 - **NEW:** Mills County issued a mandatory evacuation order on June 23 for citizens living west of I-29 from Gaston Ave. south to the Fremont County line. County officials said there is no imminent threat to the levee system, however, rural roads that would have to be used in an evacuation in the area are becoming impassable due to the rise in groundwater.
 - <http://www.millscoia.us/flood2011.htm>
- **Fremont**
 - On June 22 Fremont County issued evacuation orders for all areas of the county west of Interstate 29 from the north county line to the south county line. The evacuation order was the result of deteriorating levees and additional expected releases from Gavins Point. The Shelter at Sidney High School remains open for those displaced.
 - <http://www.co.fremont.ia.us/fremontcoemergencymanagement.htm>
 - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/2011-Fremont-County-IA-Flood-Support/232438310105233>

Donations and Volunteering

- **Donations of items such as clothing, food, furniture, etc, are NOT needed at this time.** 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.

- If you wish to make a donation to a local organization, information on these funds can be found on the websites listed in the “County Updates” section of this release.
- Those wishing to volunteer in a disaster-related capacity may sign up to do so at <https://volunteer.truist.com/icovs/volunteer/register/>.

Scams

Iowans along the Missouri River should be aware of the potential for disaster-related scams and price gouging. For information, visit the Iowa Attorney General’s website at: www.iowaAttorneyGeneral.gov.

Special Needs Assistance

Residents in potential flood areas who have special needs should contact local officials to request assistance and information. Residents in impacted areas are urged to look out for their neighbors with special needs and to help them get in touch with local officials.

For More Information

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

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