

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Aug. 3, 2011

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Contact: Governor's Office  
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## State of Iowa Joint Information Center Update

DES MOINES – This update is provided by the Joint Information Center at the State Emergency Operations Center. For comprehensive disaster-related information and resources, visit the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division website at [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org).

**Please note:** The daily update has been newly restructured to include the multiple severe weather events affecting Iowa.

This release includes the latest updates for the following severe weather events:

- DR-1998 - Missouri River flooding
- Summer 2011 severe weather and wind storm events

### **MEDIA CONFERENCE CALLS**

The next weekly media conference call will be held today, Aug. 3 at 3:30 p.m.

- Conference Call Dial-In Number – 1-800-645-8878
- Conference Code: 003252

*Same conference call information to be used on each call.*

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

- **Donations:** Donations of items such as clothing, food, furniture, etc, are NOT needed at this time. If you want to help, cash is best. To donate cash, visit [www.aidmatrixnetwork.org/CashDonations/Default2.aspx?ST=iowa](http://www.aidmatrixnetwork.org/CashDonations/Default2.aspx?ST=iowa).
- **Volunteers:** Those wishing to volunteer in a disaster-related capacity may sign up to do so at [www.volunteeriowa.org](http://www.volunteeriowa.org).
- **Scams:** Iowans 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](http://www.iowaAttorneyGeneral.gov).
- **Additional links**
  - Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division: [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org).
  - Governor Branstad's flood page: <https://governor.iowa.gov/news/missouri-river-flooding>.

## **MISSOURI RIVER FLOODING**

<http://iowahomelandsecurity.org/disasters/disaster2011.html>

### **DR-1998: May 25 - Continuing**

- Counties: Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury
- Federal Public Assistance – All six counties
- **State** Individual Assistance – All six counties

### **News and Updates:**

- **Stay Aware, Be Prepared** - Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) reminds Iowans that flooding along the Missouri River is continuing, and river levels are projected to remain high for many more weeks. It is important that residents in threatened areas remain prepared in case conditions change. Keeping a bag packed with essential items and establishing a family evacuation plan will help Iowans be ready to evacuate if an order is given.

**Shelter Summary – Iowa Shelters:** On July 29, the American Red Cross opened a new shelter at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 611 First Avenue in Council Bluffs. Numerous shelters remain on standby and are ready to receive residents if needed.

### **State Response Summary:**

- **Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD)**
  - HSEMD is responding to the Fremont County request for assistance in removing sun and heat deteriorated poly on Ditch 6. The Iowa Department of Corrections will provide inmate assistance to provide the necessary labor for removal of the old poly and to replace with new product.
  - HSEMD continues to work closely with various local, state, federal, voluntary and faith-based organizations as well as private partners, and continues to field calls and provide assistance on a 24-hour basis to local emergency management officials.
- **Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS)**
  - Disaster Behavioral Health Response Teams will be out visiting counties again this week. One team each will be assigned to work with the emergency management staff in Harrison, Mills, Monona, Fremont and Woodbury Counties. A team will also be visiting a campground in Harrison County to meet with evacuees.
- **Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR)**
  - Counties have contacted the DNR about keeping some temporary levees constructed during the flooding in place as post-flood permanent structures. DNR is reviewing the regulations surrounding the structures as well as the application process so they are prepared for upcoming requests and applications.
- **Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC)**
  - Inmates will be providing the necessary labor to re-cover sun and heat deteriorated poly on Ditch 6 in Hamburg. They will also put new poly down to further protect the levee.

- **Iowa National Guard**
  - The Iowa National Guard is working with Mills County emergency management on a revised plan for levee patrol.
- **Iowa Department of Public Health (DPH)**
  - DPH is regularly monitoring vector control and abatement issues.

### **SUMMER 2011 SEVERE WEATHER AND WIND STORM EVENTS**

<http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/disasters/storm2011.html>

#### **June 26: Severe Storms**

- **State** Individual Assistance: Marion County

#### **July 10-11: Severe Storms and Wind**

- Governor's Proclamation for Resources: Benton, Marshall, Story and Tama Counties
- **State** Individual Assistance: Benton, Marshall and Tama Counties

#### **July 13: Severe Storms and Flooding**

- **State** Individual Assistance: Dickinson County

#### **July 27: Severe Storms and Flooding**

- Governor's Proclamation for Resources: Dubuque County
- **State** Individual Assistance: Dubuque County

**Please note:** The July 10-11, July 13, and July 27 weather events occurred within the "July 9 and continuing" incident period.

#### **News and Updates:**

- **NEW – Dubuque County Disaster Proclamations** – On Aug. 2, Gov. Branstad signed an emergency disaster proclamation for Dubuque County in response to last month's severe weather and flooding. Gov. Branstad also signed a proclamation activating the State Individual Assistance Disaster Program for storm- and flood-affected Dubuque County residents. For an application and instructions, see [http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/Consumers/Assistance\\_Programs/CashAssistance/DisasterAssistance/StormHelp.html](http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/Consumers/Assistance_Programs/CashAssistance/DisasterAssistance/StormHelp.html) or visit the "Storm Help" link on the front page of the Department of Human Services Website, [www.dhs.iowa.gov](http://www.dhs.iowa.gov).
- **Preliminary Damage Assessments** – Public Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) were conducted Aug. 1 in Clay, Dickinson, Dubuque and Jackson Counties. Individual Assistance PDAs will be conducted Aug. 3 in Jackson and Dubuque Counties. Information collected during the assessments will be used to determine if damages that have occurred are sufficient to warrant a request for federal funding.
- **Governor Branstad Requests Presidential Declaration** – On July 27, Governor Branstad submitted a major disaster declaration request to President Obama for Benton, Marshall, Story and Tama Counties. Governor Branstad requested a Major Disaster for Public Assistance for the counties in response to the severe weather and windstorms that began on July 9. The windstorms caused widespread damage and resulted in large amounts of debris. The State may ask for additional counties to be added if the damage warrants such a request.

**State Response Summary:**

- **Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD)**
  - HSEMD continues to work closely with various local, state, federal, voluntary and faith-based organizations as well as private partners, and continues to field calls and provide assistance on a 24-hour basis to local emergency management officials.
  
- **Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS)**
  - **NEW** – The Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program is in place for Marion County after the June storms; and Benton, Dickinson, Dubuque, Marshall and Tama counties affected by the July storms.
  
- **Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC)**
  - The DOC is providing inmate assistance with debris removal in Benton County.
  
- **Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT)**
  - Debris removal assistance continues in Benton County.