

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Gov. Branstad Designates April 2-6 as Severe Weather Awareness Week

DES MOINES – Governor Terry E. Branstad has proclaimed April 2-6, 2012, as Severe Weather Awareness Week.

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) and the National Weather Service (NWS) have joined together to promote severe weather awareness and preparedness.

“Severe Weather Awareness Week is an opportunity to remind Iowans that severe weather season is right around the corner, and that there are things they can do to be more prepared for severe weather or any emergency,” said HSEMD Administrator Mark Schouten.

For each day during Severe Weather Awareness Week, a different subject will be featured:

Monday – Flash Floods

Tuesday – Weather Warnings

Wednesday – Tornadoes

Thursday – Severe Thunderstorms

Friday – Family Preparedness

The highlight of Severe Weather Awareness Week is the annual tornado drill scheduled for Wednesday, April 4 at approximately 10 a.m. Schools, businesses, state and local governments, and individuals are strongly encouraged to participate in the drill. Additional information about the tornado drill can be found on local NWS websites.

During Severe Weather Awareness Week, HSEMD will post information on individual and family preparedness at www.BeReady.iowa.gov. The NWS will promote severe weather safety on their websites and by issuing informative public information statements. The Des Moines National Weather Service Forecast Office has new preparedness information on its website at:

www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx/?n=preparedness.

Additional information about severe weather and family safety, including audio podcasts and public service announcements, can be found at: www.BeReady.iowa.gov.

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