

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 4, 2013

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515-725-3231 or HSEMDPIO@iowa.gov
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515-725-3518

Joint Information Center Flood Update

Branstad declares one new county a disaster area

PLEASE NOTE: JOINT INFORMATION CENTER UPDATES DISCONTINUED

Due to improving conditions in flood-impacted areas of the state, this is the final Joint Information Center Update. Disaster-related information will continue to be released through the governor's office and the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD). Should response and recovery activities warrant, the Joint Information Center Update may again be distributed.

For information relating to flooding, contact the governor's office at 515-725-3518 or a public information officer at HSEMD at 515-725-3231 or HSEMDPIO@iowa.gov.

Information is also available at:

- www.iowaFloodCentral.tumblr.com
- governor.iowa.gov
- www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov

Branstad declares one new county a disaster area

Des Moines--Today, Governor Branstad issued a proclamation of disaster emergency for one additional county in response to the recent storms and flooding.

The Governor declared a disaster in Des Moines County. In addition, the Governor activated the Iowa Individual Assistance Program in Greene County.

The Iowa Individual Assistance Program provides grants up to \$5,000 for households with incomes up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level, or a maximum annual income of \$39,060, for a family of three.

Grants are available for home or car repairs, replacement of clothing or food, and for the expense of temporary housing. Original receipts are required for those seeking reimbursement for actual expenses related to storm recovery. The grant application and instructions are available at the "Disaster Assistance" link on the Iowa Department of Human Services website: www.dhs.iowa.gov. Applications must be received within 45 days of the date of proclamation.

All counties that have received Governor's proclamations of disaster for this flooding incident are listed in the response summary below.

Iowa Flood Center provides resources for Iowans impacted by flooding

The Iowa Flood Center <http://iowafloodcenter.org/> at the University of Iowa provides state-wide and community/watershed specific flooding information. The web-based tool, the Iowa Flood Information System <http://ifis.iowafloodcenter.org/ifis/en/> provides real-time community level flood warnings, forecasts, flood inundations maps, streamflow and rainfall data. The system includes data from federal and state sources. For more information contact the Iowa Flood Center at 319-384-1729.

State Response Summary

Governor's Office

- The Governor and Lt. Governor, along with HSEMD Administrator Mark Schouten, conducted a tour of New Hartford and Iowa City Monday afternoon.
- The Governor's office has issued disaster emergency proclamations for state resources for the following counties: Benton, Buchanan, Buena Vista, Butler, Cedar, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Clay, Clayton, Clinton, Crawford, Davis, Decatur, Des Moines, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Greene, Grundy, Hardin, Henry, Ida, Iowa, Jasper, Johnson, Jones, Keokuk, Linn, Louisa, Lyon, Mahaska, Marshall, Mitchell, Monona, Monroe, O'Brien, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Poweshiek, Sac, Sioux, Story, Tama, Wapello, Winnebago and Wright.
- Emergency Proclamation to activate the State of Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program – Black Hawk, Buchanan, Buena Vista, Butler, Cedar, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Clay, Davis, Decatur, Delaware, Floyd, Greene, Grundy, Henry, Iowa, Jasper, Johnson, Linn, Marshall, Mitchell, Monroe, Plymouth, Poweshiek, Sioux, Story, Tama, Wapello and Wright.
- The Office of Gov. Terry Branstad and Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds on May 31 launched www.iowaFloodCentral.tumblr.com in conjunction with HSEMD to give Iowans a resource for up-to-date Iowa flood information. This is the first Tumblr established and utilized by the governor's office. Press releases regarding flood-affected counties will still be posted on the governor's website (governor.iowa.gov) and information regarding disaster readiness and assistance will still be available through HSEMD's website (homelandsecurity.iowa.gov). The Iowa Flood Central page will act as an information aggregator of flood-related content from Iowa state agencies, news reports and eyewitness accounts from Iowans wishing to submit pictures and videos of local flooding.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management

- Joint FEMA/State/local government preliminary damage assessments began June 3. Assessments began in the northwest section of the state and will conclude in the southeast section. It is expected to take several days to complete the assessments. The results will be used to determine if the amount of damage warrants Gov. Branstad asking for a Presidential Disaster Declaration.
- Deployed pump resources to Benton, Butler, Cherokee, Jasper, Louisa, Mahaska and Marshall counties.
- Traffic barricades to Buena Vista, Cherokee and Tama.

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- Sandbags and poly to Benton, Louisa and Mitchell.
- Bottled water was delivered to New Sharon in Mahaska County and Galva in Ida County. The Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council coordinated the delivery of water to Galva with the Convoy of Hope.
- **NEW**-Sioux City Urban Search and Rescue (USAR)/Swift Water Rescue team is being staged in the Louisa County area so they are able to quickly respond to any needs in southeast Iowa. The Cedar Rapids USAR/Swift Water Rescue team was staged in Iowa City and is being demobilized on June 4.

Iowa National Guard

- **NEW**--The Iowa National Guard sent two liaison officers and two personnel to assist with evacuation planning activities to the Johnson County EOC. Mission concluded.

Department of Transportation

- The Department has submitted a letter of intent to the Federal Highway Administration, requesting Emergency Relief Funding for all Federal-Aid routes classified as major collectors or above in rural areas and collectors and above in urban areas.
- Numerous road closures on state and local highways and roads. For more information on road closures, visit www.511ia.org, or call 5-1-1 or 1-800-288-1047.
- The Department is transporting flood-fighting resources to various locations in the state.
- The Department is providing staging locations for resources.

Department of Human Services

- The Department is administering the Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program.
http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/Consumers/Assistance_Programs/CashAssistance/DisasterAssistance/StormHelp.html

Department of Natural Resources

- Information on private wells during times of flooding can be found at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryWater/PrivateWellProgram.aspx>
- The Department is actively monitoring water treatment and sewage treatment facilities.
- Field staff is assisting in numerous counties.

Department of Public Health

- The Department has established a website addressing health issues during flooding at <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/EmergencyResponse/Flooding>

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Department of Corrections

- The Department has provided inmate sandbagging assistance out of the Iowa Medical Classification Center.
- Inmates will provide debris removal assistance in the City of Kellogg.

Department of Public Safety

- The State Fire Marshal is providing building inspectors in Cherokee.
- **NEW**--The Iowa State Patrol provided personnel for traffic control, if needed, in Johnson County. Mission concluded.

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