

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Gov. Branstad designates March 24-28 as Severe Weather Awareness Week**

DES MOINES – Governor Terry E. Branstad has proclaimed March 24-28, 2014, as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Iowa.

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

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

An important activity during Severe Weather Awareness Week is the annual tornado drill, scheduled for Wednesday, March 26, 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](http://www.beready.iowa.gov), including podcasts, videos, Web banners and graphics. The NWS will promote severe weather safety on its websites and by issuing informative public information statements.

Additional information about severe weather, emergency preparedness, and family safety, as well as links to each of the NWS office websites serving Iowa can be found at [www.beready.iowa.gov](http://www.beready.iowa.gov).

The Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management leads, coordinates and supports homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

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