

Inside IEMA

Monthly Newsletter



Illinois Emergency Management Agency

June 2019

Message from the Director

The spring months have been challenging for several local communities as floodwaters ravaged many parts of Illinois. This month, teams from county emergency management agencies will be going door-to-door to assess the damage to homes and businesses in the declared state disaster counties. While the river levels are starting to recede, the disaster continues for many people whose homes and businesses were heavily damaged. These damage assessments will help IEMA apply for federal disaster assistance to help people fix their homes and start getting their lives back to normal.



The assessment teams will be looking at flood-damaged homes and businesses and assessing the severity of damage. They will also be looking at the condition of infrastructure such as roads, bridges and levees. If the damage is so extensive that the ability to recover from the disaster is beyond the capability of local and state governments, documentation from the assessments could be used to support a state request for federal assistance.

In order to receive local and state government reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for flood-related costs, Illinois must have at least \$19.2 million in FEMA verified, documented damage. In addition to meeting the \$19.2M threshold, Illinois counties must reach a per capita total in order for the county's damages to be included in the State's \$19.2M total. It is important to note that FEMA does not have a threshold to meet when it comes to individual assistance.

IEMA is committed to continued recovery efforts in Illinois. Our agency will work with the affected counties to help report flood related costs. This agency will be your advocate throughout this process because without this federal assistance, the ability for many communities to recover fully from this devastating disaster will be difficult, if not impossible. All decisions on the release of federal funds lie solely with officials in Washington.

In all, 36 counties are covered by a state disaster proclamation issued by Governor JB Pritzker. Those counties include: Adams, Alexander, Brown, Bureau, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Fulton, Greene, Grundy, Hancock, Henderson, Henry, Jackson, Jersey, Jo Daviess, Knox, LaSalle, Madison, Marshall, Mason, Mercer, Monroe, Morgan, Peoria, Pike, Putnam, Randolph, Rock Island, Schuyler, Scott, St. Clair, Tazewell, Union, Whiteside, and Woodford.

In this issue

State Agencies Stand United to Offer Comprehensive Recovery Assistance	2
The Great Flood of 2019	3
Exercise: Ensuring Safe Transport of Spent Fuel	7
2019 IEMA Training Summit	7
Public, Private Sector Work to Enhance Response in Simulated Catastrophic Event	8
Staff Spotlight	9
Coming and Goings	10
Beat the Heat with these Heat Safety Tips	11
July is Youth Preparedness Month	12

State Agencies Stand United to Offer Comprehensive Recovery Assistance

The State of Illinois launched a comprehensive website (www.Illinois.gov/2019Floods) dedicated to disaster recovery. Governor JB Pritzker has instructed agency directors across state government to make resources available to help local communities recover from this devastating flood. From emergency housing assistance to replacing SNAP benefits or agricultural aid, countless state agencies have come together to offer help to those affected by severe, widespread flooding.

“This flood event has had an unprecedented reach – impacting residents, business owners, farmers and entire communities,” said Acting IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. “Disasters take a toll on one’s physical and mental health. As Illinoisans begin to clean-up their businesses and homes, we also want to make mental health a priority. We are proud to partner with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) to offer a free informational Helpline – a much needed lifeline for those impacted by this disaster.”

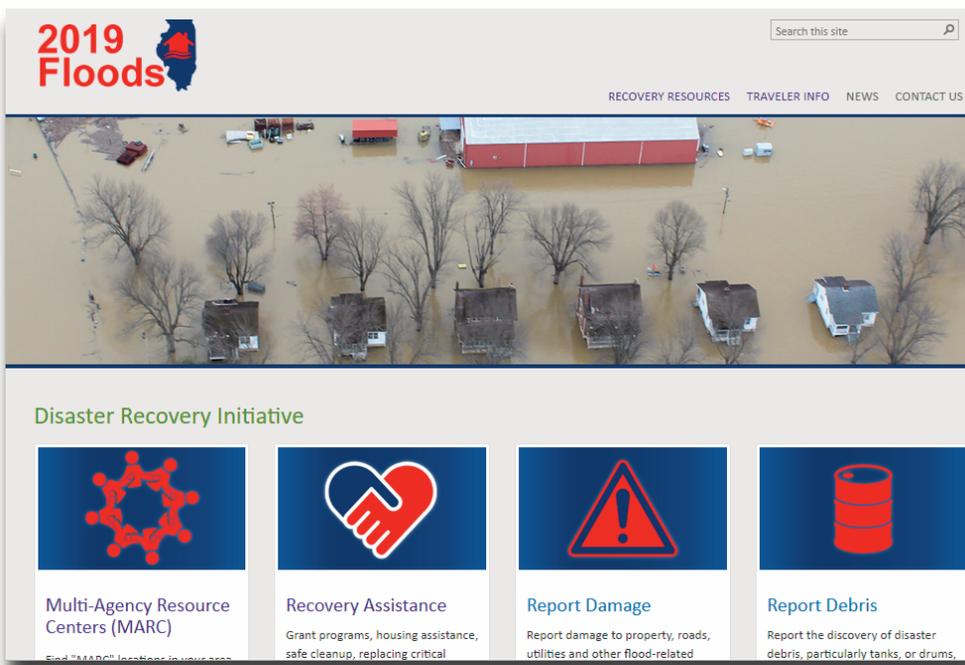
“As a lifelong farmer I know firsthand how stressful farm life can be in a normal year, but this year has been exceptionally hard on our farmers not only financially, but mentally,” said John Sullivan, Director, Illinois Department of Agriculture. “If you need help, please reach out to someone. Know you are not alone in feeling the pressure to secure your crops.”

The 2019 Illinois Flood Recovery website provides information on:

- Debris and Damage Reporting Tools
- Recovery Resources- Emergency Housing and Mortgage Assistance, Availability of Multi-Agency Resource Centers, Health and Safety, Agricultural Resources, Fraud Alert Information and Disaster Volunteer Organizations.
- Mental Health Helpline
- Road/Travel Updates
- Press Releases
- County Emergency Management contacts

As many communities begin to eye the clean-up and recovery process, Illinois’ Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) stand ready to help those in need. Among those organizations is the American Red Cross. The organization provides cleaning supplies (such as buckets, bleach, mops, brooms, gloves, and trash bags), disaster counseling and timely referrals to other disaster relief organizations. All assistance provided by the American Red Cross is free of charge.

To date, Governor JB Pritzker has issued a state disaster proclamation for 36 counties in Illinois due to the extreme flooding along the Illinois, Mississippi rivers and its tributaries. Once the water recedes, counties will begin compiling damage assessment information, which will be turned into IEMA in order to submit a request for a federal disaster declaration.



The Great Flood of 2019

By The Numbers

- 36 counties covered by State Disaster Proclamation
- More than 5 million sandbags deployed
- 38,000 tons of rock distributed
- 1.2 million tons of sand distributed
- More than 3,300 rolls of plastic distributed
- More than 1.1 million sandbags filled by IDOC
- 39 pumps deployed by IDOT
- 26 pumps deployed by U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
- 450 linear feet of HESCO barriers installed
- 1,750 feet of Aquadam deployed



The Great Flood of 2019 – Region 2



The Great Flood of 2019 – Region 6



The Great Flood of 2019 – Region 8



The Great Flood of 2019 – Region 11



Exercise: Ensuring Safe Transport of Spent Fuel

The Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI) Used Nuclear Fuel Transportation Task Force conducted a used nuclear fuel transportation tabletop exercise at Xcel Energy's Prairie Island Nuclear Power Station located in Minnesota on May 21, 2019. NEI Task Force member, Kelly Horn of IEMA's Division of Nuclear Safety, assisted with identifying and setting exercise objectives, exercise scenario development, participant roles, and was an exercise moderator.

The exercise scenario created a fictional decommissioned nuclear power station, the Great Lakes Nuclear Power Station (GLNPS), which combined the real world existing infrastructure of the decommissioned Kewaunee Nuclear Power Station with the unique societal aspects of the operating Prairie Island Nuclear Power Station. Using the "Private Fuel" transportation model (meaning the Nuclear Waste Policy Act does not apply), the used nuclear fuel was removed from dry cask storage, prepared for transport, and shipped to the fictional Sun Desert Consolidated Interim Storage Facility, conveniently located on the border of Texas and New Mexico. This movement utilized three modes of transportation: heavy haul road, barge, and rail. Upon

arrival at the consolidated interim storage facility, the fuel was removed from transportation and placed back into dry cask storage. Although the scenario assumed normal and uneventful transportation conditions, a post exercise discussion addressed contingency and emergency response plans and protocols that would be implemented in the event of an accident, weather event, protest, or other transportation impediments.

The tabletop exercise allowed a structured discussion among decision makers, stakeholders, regulators, and industry leaders with a focus on key actions needed to transport used fuel from a shutdown nuclear power generating site to a consolidated interim storage facility. Further, participants and observers were able to gain a better understanding of the used fuel transportation planning and implementation process through observing participant dialog, information transfer, and decision making on legal, regulatory requirements, and stakeholder interests. The Task Force believes the exercise helped clarify roles and responsibilities as well as identify process streamlining and regulatory efficiency improvements.

2019 IEMA Training Summit: Sept 3-5



Plans are well underway for the annual IEMA Training Summit, September 3-5 at the Bank of Springfield Center in downtown Springfield.

The theme of this year's Training Summit is Partnerships in Action. We will offer many exceptional training opportunities that will strengthen emergency response protocols and provide invaluable networking opportunities that can enhance personal professional growth in the field of public safety, emergency preparedness and homeland security.



We are excited to announce that the keynote speaker for Thursday's General Session is former FEMA administrator Brock Long. After leaving the public sector, Brock Long joined the prestigious firm,

Hagerty Consulting. His experience in emergency management and philosophy on preparedness will be insightful and informative for the emergency managers in attendance.

In the days and weeks ahead, please look for additional information about our upcoming training opportunities and additional General Session speakers.

Meanwhile, there is still time for your business or organization to get involved in the 2019 Summit! Become an exhibitor and/or sponsor today to increase your exposure to the state's top decision makers in the field of emergency management. To learn more, contact Julie Pfeifer at julie.pfeifer@illinois.gov.

Public, Private Sector Work to Enhance Response in Simulated Catastrophic Event

Approximately six hundred participants from over 85 agencies participated in a statewide operations-based exercise on May 22nd. Operation Power Play is an exercise designed to simulate a response to multiple tornadoes, straight-line winds and major flooding throughout Illinois as a result of a severe storm event. This year, a complex coordinated cyber-attack was added to the scenario “impacting” several utilities and private sector partners. While the exercise is designed to test the public-private sector’s response to low-probability, high-impact catastrophic events throughout the state, some specific areas that were tested included responder safety and health, interoperable communications, restoration of lifelines and resource management.

IEMA along with ComEd, Ameren Illinois, MidAmerican Energy, the City of Chicago’s Office of Emergency Management and Communications, DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Argonne National Laboratories and the Illinois Institute of Technology sponsored the multi-jurisdictional and multi-discipline collaborative effort. The primary location for the exercise took place at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in Chicago, but play also occurred in many locations throughout the state including the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and 15 other local EOCs.

“Partnerships between government agencies and the private sector allow communities to respond and recover faster following disasters,” said Acting IEMA Director, Alicia Tate-Nadeau. “I applaud our private sector partners for their dedication to preparedness. Preparing today for the disasters of tomorrow will ensure Illinois is ready to respond to all types of hazards, anywhere in our state.”

In addition to participating in the exercise, participating organizations were provided the opportunity to showcase their emergency response plans, display vehicles and equipment and take part in a mock press conference.

“The thing an exercise like this does, it allows us to move faster. It allows us to move in a more reliable fashion, and it allows us to work together to get the right resource to the right location and at the right time for the right reason. Operation Power Play is the experience, the partnerships, the opportunity to exchange a bunch of ideas and that is huge in our world. It is something that you can’t replace,” said Darryl Drago, Bureau Chief of Operations.

This year’s exercise marked the fourth statewide exercise since its inception in 2013. Over the years the size and complexity of the exercise grows as well as participation.



Staff Spotlight: Meet Renysha Brown

Renysha Brown is the new Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Preparedness and Grants Administration at the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. She previously served as Bureau Chief of Contract Compliance for the Department of Human Service and Chief of Staff of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs.



Renysha is a highly decorated retired Lieutenant Colonel with 28 years of military service. She began her enlisted career with 3 years of Active Army service in 1989. In 1992, she transitioned into the Illinois Army National Guard (ILARNG). After earning her commission through Officer Candidate School (OCS) in 1995, she served in various Platoon Leader positions in the 3637th Maintenance Company and the 1344th Transportation Company. Brown participated in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm 1990-1991, Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF II) 2003-2005 and Operation Crescent Relief (Hurricane Katrina) 2005.

She is a life member of both the National Guard Association of Illinois and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. She is also a member of the National Guard Association of the United States and sits on the board for St. Clair County Teen Court Foundation

Renysha currently lives in Belleville with her husband, Edward, and her two sons Edwyn and Ethyn.

What are three interesting facts about you?

1) I love to sew, 2) I like to travel, but hate to pack/unpack, 3) I am a Dallas Cowboys Fan.

What's the last adventure you went on?

A girls trip to an undisclosed location– what happened there was left there!

If you didn't have to sleep, what would you do with the extra time?

I only sleep about 5 hours at a time anyway, so I would take that time to make clothes. Sewing is relaxing.

What are some small things that make your day better?

Smiles, kind words, good music and food.

July Training Calendar

AWR 232

Mass Fatalities Planning and Response for Rural Communities

7/12/2019

Athens Fire Department

AWR 148

Crisis Management for School-Based Incidents

7/20/2019

Kinsman Community Building

Leadership in Today's world

7/23/2019

Brown County Training Facility-Mt. Sterling

MGT 348

Medical Preparedness & Response for Bombing Incidents

7/30/2019-7/31/2019

Alton

To learn more about upcoming training and exercises, visit:

<http://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/training/exercises/exercisecalendar.asp>



COMINGS & GOINGS *at IEMA*

NEW EMPLOYEES

- **Sami Ahmed**, Account Tech II, PGA

RETIREMENT

- **Brian Bergmann**, NS Engineer I, DNS

PROMOTION

- **Sandy Nickel** from Disaster Services Planner, Ops to Executive II, Ops
- **Jill Arenz** from NS Inspector I, DNS to NS Supervisor I, DNS

Beat the Heat with these Heat Safety Tips

On average, heat kills more people each year than other weather-related hazards, such as tornadoes, floods and lightning. To increase awareness about the dangers of extreme heat, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and local emergency management agencies are offering heat safety tips to help people stay safe when temperatures rise.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), heat accounted for an average of 101 fatalities each year from 2009–2019. During that same period, tornadoes caused an average of 89 deaths each year, while floods resulted in an annual average of 95 fatalities. NWS also reports during that same ten-year reporting period an average of 38 children died due to heat stroke from being left inside a hot vehicle (16 children have died so far in 2019).

“Heat-related fatalities can be prevented by taking precautions when temperatures rise,” said IEMA Acting Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. “One of the most important heat safety tips is to never leave children, elderly people, adults with disabilities, or pets in parked cars even for a short time. Temperatures in vehicles rise much faster than many people realize.”

Even with the windows slightly open, temperatures inside a vehicle will rise 30 to 40 degrees in less than 30 minutes. The effects of hot cars can be more severe on children because their bodies warm at a faster rate than adults.

Several tragic deaths also have occurred when children got into vehicles without their parents’ knowledge and then could not get out. It is important to always lock car doors and trunks, even at home, and keep keys out of children’s reach.

Other hot weather tips include:

- Stay hydrated by drinking at least 1½ to 2 quarts of fluids daily, even if you do not feel thirsty.

- Avoid alcoholic beverages and drinks containing caffeine.
- Avoid overexertion and strenuous outdoor activities if possible. If you work outdoors, remember to drink plenty of water and take frequent breaks in the shade.
- Take advantage of cooling centers, public pools and air-conditioned stores and malls during periods of extreme heat. Even a few hours a day in air conditioning can help prevent heat-related illnesses.
- Do not forget your pets. Offer pets extra water and place the water bowl in a shaded area if outdoors. Make sure pets have a shady refuge where they can escape direct sun exposure.
- If you or someone around you begins experiencing dizziness, nausea, headache, confusion and a rapid pulse, seek medical attention immediately, as these could be the symptoms of heatstroke.

The State of Illinois offers many state owned facilities as cooling centers to provide Illinoisans a place to stay cool and comfortable during hot summer days. Tollway Oasis locations are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Department of Human Services cooling centers are open during normal business hours from 8:30AM - 5:00PM, Monday through Friday. For a list of state facility cooling centers visit, [Keep Cool Illinois](#).

Heat Related Deaths ARE Preventable
LOOK BEFORE YOU LOCK

The temperature in your car can quickly become deadly!

Outside Temperature	Inside Temperature	Time Elapsed
80°	99°	10 Minutes
80°	109°	20 Minutes
80°	114°	30 Minutes
80°	123°	60 Minutes

weather.gov/heat nhtsa.gov

July is Youth Preparedness Month

Emergencies and disasters can happen at any time. Disaster planning, response and recovery efforts should always take into account the unique needs of children, who make up roughly a quarter of the United States population. That is why this month, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, and county emergency management agencies, are taking steps to promote youth preparedness. Starting or getting



involved with a youth preparedness program is a great way to enhance a community's resilience and help develop future generations of prepared adults. Studies have shown children are positive influencers in their households. Children can effectively bring the message of preparedness home to their families. Participating in youth preparedness programs empowers children to become leaders at home and in their schools and communities.

power outages) to talk to children about how your family would respond if this happened to you. Utilizing your family emergency plan, discuss where you would go, what you would do and how you will ensure their safety during an emergency. Children who are prepared experience less anxiety and feel more confident during actual emergencies and disasters.

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Tips for incorporating children into disaster preparedness:

Promote interactive activities within your family. One way to do this is by involving children in the development of a [family emergency plan](#).

Use real world events to teach about emergency situations and disasters. Using media coverage of current disasters (i.e.: floods, tornadoes, hurricanes,

introduce older children to ways to be proactive about disaster preparedness. FEMA's Youth [Preparedness Council](#) offers youth leaders an opportunity to serve on a national council. During their two-year term, the youth leaders complete both a local and national-level project to share ideas regarding youth disaster preparedness.

For younger children, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has collaborated with the American Red Cross to produce a disaster preparedness activity book, [Prepare with Pedro](#). This booklet is designed to encourage youth and their families to be better prepared for disasters by offering safety advice alongside crosswords, coloring pages, matching games and more.

For more information about youth preparedness, visit [Ready.Illinois.gov](#).

Don't Miss Important IEMA Information

Did you know - IEMA's website enables you to receive the latest news from IEMA as soon as it is posted. You can subscribe to the RSS feed for IEMA press releases at <http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/PressReleases.aspx>.

You will need a third-party RSS reader/aggregator software. There are many options to choose from ranging from web-based to mobile apps. If you are

using Microsoft Exchange, you can simply right click on the "RSS Feeds" folder and select "Add a new RSS Feed," then insert the address of the RSS feed.

Some browsers will have a "subscribe" link at the top of the page automatically. Clicking this link will add the subscription to a "Feeds" section of your browser's favorites or bookmarks.

Previous issues of Inside IEMA are available at:

<http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>



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Illinois Emergency Management Agency

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