



NOTICE: THIS NEWSLETTER WILL NOW BE PUBLISHED ON A MONTHLY BASIS ON THE LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH. WE ARE ALSO INCLUDING INFORMATION REGARDING THE AUGUST 10, 2020 DERECHO.



Storm/Roads/Rural Cleanup - Secondary Roads

Secondary Roads is only clearing trees that were blocking the roadways after the storm. With 950 miles of roads, they do not have staff or disposal space to pick up debris from residents placed in the right of way. Property owners are responsible for debris from their own property including proper disposal of that debris. Placement of debris in the ditch is considered illegal dumping and the property owner could be charged for the cleanup of such debris. Any questions, please call the Engineer's Office at (563) 886-6102.



Vital Records and Certain Registrations/Titles - Recorder's Office

The Governor's Proclamation issued August 21st, 2020 allows for the replacement of Vital Records, Boat, Snowmobile, ATV or ORV registrations and/or titles in the Cedar County Recorder's Office due to them being lost, destroyed, or rendered illegible as a result of derecho that occurred on August 10, 2020. Please contact the Cedar County Recorder's Office at 563-886-2230 or stop by the office for help with obtaining replacements at no fee.



Open Burning Information– Emergency Management

As we continue to recover from the August 10th derecho, Cedar County Emergency Management is reminding all Cedar County residents of their responsibilities according to The Cedar County Burn Ordinance. Please note that this ordinance applies to rural residents; your local jurisdiction may have other restrictions or rules that pertain to open burning. Those who live in an incorporated jurisdiction are strongly encouraged to contact their local city hall regarding burning restrictions and ordinances.

If you are planning an open burn, you must first notify a Dispatcher on duty at the Cedar County Law Center with the following information:

- name of the person responsible for the burn,
- person's telephone/cell phone number
- the specific location of the burn
- the date and time that the open burn will be held.

An adult over the age of 18 must remain near the burn to attend it until the fire is extinguished. To notify dispatch, please contact the Cedar County Sheriff's Office at 563-886-2121, extension 4.

All residents are reminded to monitor the weather conditions prior to the open burn and to refrain from burning on windy days or during times of excessive dry conditions within the county or during declared burn bans.



Iowa Individual Disaster Assistance Grant Program

The Iowa Individual Disaster Assistance Grant Program has been activated for the derecho storms that affected Cedar, Clinton, Muscatine, and Scott Counties on Monday, August 10, 2020. Qualifying households may be eligible to receive individual grant assistance and case management to recover from the effects of the storm. If you meet income guidelines you may be able to receive financial help from the Iowa Individual Disaster Assistance program. For more information, please call 563-324-3236.

Tetanus Information – Public Health

At this time during a disaster situation, people commonly ask questions about the risk of tetanus. According to the Iowa Department of Public Health, increases in diseases like Tetanus are not typically seen following disaster situations. However, injuries received during or following a disaster may increase the risk of the disease. Following the storm, Derecho, this is a good time to remind Cedar County residents to check their immunization records. If residents are unsure if they need to receive a tetanus containing vaccine, they should call their health care provider.

Cedar County residents can receive vaccines at their Primary Care Provider or at Cedar County Public Health. For more information, please call 563-886-2226.



Red Cross Assistance

Assistance may be available from the Red Cross through their Immediate Assistance Program. To be eligible, households need to apply and meet the following requirements:

- Applicant's pre-disaster primary residence is located in a confirmed disaster-impacted geographic area.
- Applicant is head of household and is not listed as a household member on any other Immediate Assistance application.
- Applicant's primary residence suffered either major damage (significant structural damage that requires extensive repairs. This can include substantial failure of the roof, walls or foundation) or is destroyed (a total loss with damage that is so extensive that repair is not feasible).

To apply, call 1-800-REDCROSS.



Iowa Legal Aid

Individuals with questions of a legal nature can call the COVID-19 Legal Information Hotline at 1-800-332-0419.



Cedar County General Assistance

There are three kinds of assistance in Cedar County

- ▶ Emergency assistance for needy persons:
- ▶ Assistance for poor persons,
- ▶ Assistance for an extended nature.

You can also request food boxes from Cedar County General Assistance. For more information, call 563-886-1726



Report Fraud or Scams

consumer@ag.iowa.gov
515-281-5926

Beware Of Fraud And Scams

FEMA representatives and inspectors *will always have an official identification badge*. Always ask to see I.D.

FEMA representatives *never charge a fee or ask for payment*.

Beware of visits, calls or emails from people claiming to be from FEMA or the State of Iowa asking for your Social Security number, bank account or other sensitive information. Giving out this type of information can help an unscrupulous person make a false claim for assistance or commit identity theft.



This newsletter is published monthly by the Cedar County Emergency Management Agency to provide information, updates and resources regarding COVID-19 for our citizens. The contacts contained herein are being provided on an informational basis; we are not responsible for the content or services provided. Information is believed to be current as of the printing date of 08/27/2020.

We know that these are trying times for everyone. The following resources are available for Cedar County residents:

COUNSELING SERVICES AVAILABLE

Free counseling is available to any Iowan who has been affected, in any way, by the COVID-19 public health emergency. The options available are:

- Call 800-447-1985 to connect with a counselor specializing in rural issues and agriculture 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Call the Iowa Warm Line, 844-775-9276, to connect with a peer counselor or request to get in touch with a COVID Recovery Iowa counselor.

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY DATES:

09/04/2020 – Tipton UMC – 607 Lynn Street, 3:30pm – 4:30pm
09/08/2020 – Bennett Ambulance Building, 3:30pm – 4:30pm
09/15/2020 – West Branch Fire Department, 3:30pm – 4:30pm

ARE YOU FACING AN IMMEDIATE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS? PLEASE CALL FOR HELP:

- Call 911 for emergencies
- The Eldercare Locator: 1-800-677-1116 (interpretation services for 150 languages)
- National Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-4AChild (1-800-422-4453) or text 1-800-422-4453
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233 or text LOVEIS to 22522
- National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673) or Online Chat
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) for English, 1-888-628-9454 for Spanish, or Lifeline Crisis Chat.
- Veteran's Crisis Line: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or Crisis Chat or text: 8388255

REPORT ABUSE

Child Abuse – If you suspect a child under the age of 18 is being abused or neglected:

1. If you believe that the child is in imminent danger, CALL 911 immediately
2. Call the Abuse Hotline at 1-800-362-2178, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
 - Be ready to provide identifying information and the whereabouts of the child
 - Unless you are a mandatory reporter, you may remain anonymous.

Dependent Abuse – Call the Abuse Hotline at 1-800-362-2178, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

EVICTIION AND FORECLOSURE PREVENTION PROGRAM

On May 29, Governor Kim Reynolds launched a new program that will provide short-term relief to income-eligible renters and homeowners who are at risk of eviction or foreclosure due to a documented COVID-19 related loss of income. For information, call the Housing Recovery Help Line at 1-855-300-5885 or 515-348-8813.

HOMELESS OR FACING A HOUSING CRISIS?

Call Houselowa at 1-833-739-0065 for assistance.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Domestic Violence Intervention Program
24/hr. Crisis Line: 1-800-373-1043

DISASTER DISTRESS HELPLINE

Provides immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any disaster, natural or man-made. 1-800-985-5990. You can also text TalkWithUS to 66746 for assistance.

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Iowans who may qualify for unemployment due to COVID-19 or under the CARES Act can find information by calling: 1-866-239-0843

UNINSURED?

If you are uninsured and need COVID-19 testing, you can call 1-855-889-7985 for assistance.

COMMUNITY ACTION OF EASTERN IOWA

Do you need help with food, utility bill assistance, crisis assistance, disaster assistance, or other help? Contact Community Action of Eastern Iowa at 563-324-3236

CHILD CARE COMPLAINT HOTLINE

If you have concerns regarding a specific child care provider or child care business that is not meeting Iowa regulations, call the Iowa Child Care Complaint Hotline at 1-844-786-1296

EASTERN IOWA MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITY SERVICES – It's OK to ask for help!!

- 24-Hour Mobile Crisis Outreach & 24-Hour Crisis Line 1-844-430-0375
- 24 Hour Life Connections Peer Respite Support Line 1-516-688-7484
- MCSA Peer Line and Virtual Groups. Open 8am-5pm M-F 563-200-2742
- Life Connections Peer Line and Virtual Groups. M, T, Th, F: 5pm-10pm, Sat-Sun 12pm-5pm 563-357-6352
- Vera French Peer Drop In- 8am-4pm M-F 563-322-5276
- 24 Hour Crisis Stabilization Residential 563-396-3017

RESOURCES FOR PORK PRODUCERS

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship announced a Resource Coordination Center to help provide technical resources to livestock producers impacted by processing plant closures. This is a coordinated effort with the Iowa Pork Producers Assoc., the Iowa Pork Industry Center, and ISU Extension and Outreach. Iowa livestock producers can call the RCC at (515) 725-1005, Monday - Friday between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., or fill out a help form anytime at iowafarmerhelp.com

NEED HELP WITH YOUR HOME ENERGY BILL?

For individuals who received a disconnection notice or who have difficulty paying a utility bill, there is help available through Community Action of Eastern Iowa. Families can apply for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that can help pay a portion of an eligible household's utility bill. The application deadline is extended to June 30, 2020. For assistance, please call 563-324-3236

REFUGEE ALLIANCE OF CENTRAL IOWA

COVID-19 ELL Help Line is available Monday – Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm at 1-877-558-2609.

FOOD BANK SERVICES

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has made several modifications to its food security programs due to the COVID-19 crisis. For more information, or to apply for SNAP benefits, call 1-855-944-3663.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES ASSISTANCE

Due to COVID-19, Community Action is not distributing supplies this year, but the agency is awarding gift cards for families to buy their own supplies. If you qualify, they will mail a \$25 Walmart gift card to each child in your home. This is limited to residents of Muscatine, Clinton and Cedar Counties. For more information, call 563-324-3236.