

# June 2026 Newsletter

Kim Elder, EM Coordinator  
Matt Vogeler, EM Specialist

[kelder@marshallcountya.gov](mailto:kelder@marshallcountya.gov)

[mvogeler@marshallcountya.gov](mailto:mvogeler@marshallcountya.gov)



## Welcome to Marshall County EMA Newsletter

Monthly updates of everything that has happened in the Marshall County Emergency Management world locally and nationally in the past month along with events that are happening soon!



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 5** – Traffic Incident Management
- June 9** – Critical Infrastructure Security
- June 11** – HazMat IQ First Responder Offensive
- June 23** – Rapid Needs Assessment
- June 24** – Planning For Disaster Debris Management
- June 29** – ICS 400 Advanced (Buchanan Co)

### PLAN UPDATES

Plans for 2027 are starting as EMA works a year ahead of schedule Looking ahead to 2027 ESF's and RSF's that will be reviewed/updated:

- ESF6 – Mass Care (complete)
- ESF8 – Public Health (reviewing)
- ESF10 – Hazardous Materials
- RSF – Health and Social Services
- RSF - Housing

### ADDITIONAL PLAN UPDATES

- Family Assistance Center Plan
- Marshall County Reunification Plan
- Marshall County Hazard Mitigation Plan (FEMA requirement)

### PROJECTS

- Alert Iowa
- Salamander
- Grants
- City EOPs
- Updating 28Es
- Updating CERT Policies
- Assisting IVH and Meskwaki shelter planning
- School safety planning meetings
- Multi-County SOG/SOP
- Red Cross Sheltering updates
- Peer Support for First Responders
- RAGBRAI Preplanning



### BOOKS OF THE MONTH

*Decision Making in Emergency Management* by Jan Glarum & Carl Adrianopoli

### GOALS FOR 2026

- Community engagement/relations
- Improvement of Marshall Co. EMA standards Countywide
- Full Implentation of Alert Iowa & Salamander systems countywide
- Training Opportunities for Marshall County first responders and local officials

# FEMA Review Council Update

The FEMA Review Council released its most recent update in May 2026 with ten recommendations for the President. Majority of the recommendations were to build continuous local and regional resilience, speed up federal aid distribution, and boost local and regional preparedness. With some of these recommendations will put more stress on local (municipalities, county, or state) to expand state and local capacity to lead disaster response.

There are also some great engagement/improvements such as speed up federal aid distribution reducing bureaucratic delays in funding and grants, disaster declaration criteria, and updating key emergency capabilities with maintaining and modernizing critical infrastructure and systems.

The final report marks a major policy shift toward decentralizing disaster response leadership to states and localities, with significant structural and funding changes...yes, Marshall County and its municipalities are affected by this!



## FROM THE COORDINATOR'S DESK

As summer arrives in Marshall County, many families are spending more time outdoors, traveling, camping, and enjoying school break activities. Summer is also a good time to review important safety habits with your family.

Iowa weather can change quickly, especially during severe storm season. Make sure your household has multiple ways to receive weather warnings, including signing up for Alert Iowa on our website, NOAA Weather Radio, local media, and trusted weather apps. Review where to shelter during severe thunderstorms or tornado warnings and practice your family plan before severe weather happens, practice makes perfect and practicing with children gives them the tools and confidence to do the right thing even if parents are not around.

With children at home during summer break, it is also important to discuss home safety. If older children may be home alone for short periods, review emergency contact numbers, how and when to call 911, severe weather shelter locations, kitchen safety, and rules about visitors and social media sharing. Encourage children to check in with parents or guardians regularly.

Summer activities often include swimming, biking, outdoor sports, and community events. Please remember:

- Stay hydrated during hot weather.
- Never leave children or pets in parked vehicles.
- Wear helmets while biking.
- Use sunscreen and take breaks from the heat.
- Watch for changing weather conditions during outdoor events.

Preparedness does not have to be complicated. Small conversations and simple planning steps can make a big difference during an emergency.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Kimberly Elder, Coordinator  
Emergency Management