

May 2026 Newsletter

Kim Elder, EM Coordinator
Matt Vogeler, EM Specialist

kelder@marshallcountya.gov

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

May 5 – CERT Meeting

May 5-6 – Flooding Hazards

May 6-8 – U of O EMA Conference

May 15-17 – CERT Basic Training (Linn Co)

May 19 – Floodplain Management (Polk Co)

May 19-20 – ICS 400

May 22 – Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command Interface (Polk Co)

May 27-28 – Tornado Awareness/Alerting

May 28 – MCEMSA Meeting

June 9 – Critical Infrastructure Security

June 23 – Rapid Needs Assessment

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
- EMA Trailer(s) Inventory
- Peer Support for First Responders
- RAGBRAI Preplanning



BOOKS OF THE MONTH

Principles of Emergency Management: Hazard Specific Issues and Mitigation Strategies
by Michael J Fagel

The Disaster Recovery Handbook by Michael J Fagel

GOALS FOR 2026

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

City Emergency Operations Plan

The emergency management office has started to push again to start having City's build their Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). The Emergency Operations Plan is a plan that lays out how the city would respond to an event such as flooding from notification of the residents to continuing daily operations throughout the flooding. It is essential that municipalities develop these plans as it is a requirement whenever trying to get reimbursement from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Emergency Management has been working closely with all municipalities to make sure these Emergency Operations Plans are completed in a timely fashion.

The Emergency Management Agency wants to thank those communities of Albion, Marshalltown, Melbourne, and LeGrand for working on completing their City Emergency Operations Plan.

Those municipalities that aren't listed, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Emergency Management Office.



FROM THE COORDINATOR'S DESK

Where oh where is spring going? April just flew by.

We have had an active spring weather pattern so far, and I am sure it will continue to be. Being prepared isn't about being scared of what could happen, it is about being ready to take action if needed. Having a plan for emergencies like severe weather is important, and it doesn't have to be hard. Building a kit to have in your tornado safe area can be a simple task that will save you time when you must hurry to shelter as a storm approaches. It can be comforting knowing the plan

is already made. Also, sharing your plans with family members can ensure they know what to do when you are not around. Children, especially, need to know what to do in an emergency. Training and practicing (exercising) your plans makes children feel empowered and able to make decisions when they need to. Summertime is quickly approaching and there will be many chances to participate in camps and classes for children that are out of school. Take the time to investigate programs that

can teach them life skills, it is a great use of their summertime and can be a lot of fun. Camps with the park and recreation departments or the YMCA offer amazing opportunities. You can also do quick and fun activities at home with simple walk through tornado sheltering or fire drills. Planning doesn't cost anything but your time and efforts. Visit our website for more information www.marshallema.org

Make sure to enjoy some "me" time. I am enjoying the longer warm days, broken up by some cool evenings for fires in the firepit.

Kimberly Elder, Coordinator
Emergency Management