Resource Guide

Generated November 21, 2026 · 1 open facilities · closed facilities are not listed · call before you go: details change quickly

IA

Iowa Concern Hotline (Iowa State University Extension)

Info/Hotline · Standby

Disaster Info/Resources/Referrals, Donation Coordination, Post Disaster Counseling

Aimes, IA

Phone (800) 447–1985
Web www.extension.iastate.edu/disasterrecovery/info/iowaconcern.htm
Hours 24/7
Eligibility Iowans impacted by natural disasters/flooding/tornado's, etc.
Service Temporary

6/3/08
Source: Agri News Website

Volunteers needed

Farmers or rural residents who would like help with cleanup are encouraged to contact the Butler County Extension office at (319) 267–2707 or the Iowa Concern Hotline at 1–800–447–1985. Cleanup activities could include picking up debris in fields or cleaning up building sites.

5/28/08 News Article (Non Pareil Online http://www.nonpareilonline.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19726131&BRD=2703&PAG=461&dept_id=555106&rfi=6)

Even though no donations are being requested at this time to help those affected by the May 25 tornadoes, the Iowa Concern Hotline is now collecting information from citizens wishing to help.
Advertisement

Anyone wanting to have items included on the listing of donated goods should contact the hotline at (800) 447–1985. The information collected by the Iowa Concern Hotline will be referenced as needs are identified within the affected areas.

When an individual contacts the Iowa Concern Hotline, they will be asked to provide information regarding the donated goods or services to include the location and type of service or donation, and a point of contact. This information will then be compiled into a database. Once a specific need is identified, the database will be used to match a resource to the need and the associated point of contact will be notified and instructed on the best method to deliver the resource.

Please note that the Iowa Concern Hotline is only gathering information about resources people are seeking to donate. Do not self–deploy any donated resources to the impacted areas. Self–deploying resources into the affected areas only places additional stress on those impacted and responding to the storm damages. The State of Iowa Emergency Operations Center is coordinating resources with the local on–scene incident commanders.

Pottawattamie County residents and emergency responders who may wish to assist those affected by the Parkersburg tornado are asked to contact the county's Emergency Management Agency to coordinate relief efforts.

The agency is in direct contact with the state's Emergency Operations Center and the Incident Command System in the stricken area.

All relief resources to that area should first go through the county's agency. Sending not requested assistance directly to the area can sometimes create additional loads on local resources.

For more information, call 328–5777.

When flooding is a concern in the state, Iowa State University Extension’s Iowa Concern hotline is available for those who need assistance.

Iowa Concern Hotline is available 24 hours a day at (800) 447–1985. All calls are free and confidential, and the operators are willing to assist wherever possible.

Three avenues are available to Iowans through the Iowa Concern Hotline. First, counselors are available to help those experiencing emotional and financial stress because of flooding.

“Damage to crops and homes by flooding can add extra stress. Counselors are available to help with the change in the weather and the stress it causes,” said Margaret VanGinkel, Iowa Concern Hotline coordinator. “Sometimes it helps to talk to someone about what you are experiencing, and the hotline does that.”

Second, information and referrals are given to those who need assistance. For example, farmers would be referred to ISU Extension crop specialists for concerns related to planting, replanting or specific diseases. Phone numbers of those in the community that can help with other problems also are provided.

Third, what insurance policies cover during flooding and damaging weather may be in question. Legal concerns are addressed at the hotline. Attorneys can help answer insurance questions and problems that may arise with hail and flood damage.

Iowa Concern Hotline is here to help Iowans deal with stress and concern. “Stress from the weather can get the best of people,” VanGinkel said. “It is important to alleviate stress by attacking it and solving the problem.”

Contacts:
Margaret VanGinkel, Iowa Concern Hotline,
(515) 965–9301
vangin@iastate.edu

Laura Sternweis, Extension Communication and External Relations
(515) 294–0775,
lsternwe@iastate.edu

Campaigns: 2008 MidWest Floods; 2008 MidWest Tornado

Updated Jun 28, 2010 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/3041