

ISU Extension Flood Information Resources

Talk To an Expert

Iowa Concern Hotline:

800-447-1985

Iowans can call this hotline for help and referrals for dealing with stress, crisis and loss in times of disaster.

ISU Extension Answer Line:

800-262-3804 (toll free for Iowa residents)

515-296-3804 (for area codes outside Iowa)

Answer Line provides information and resources for Iowa consumers with home and family questions.

Send Extension your questions at extensiononline@iastate.edu

Iowa State University Extension Flood Resources Site

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/topic/recovering-disasters>

Information on this public site is updated as needs change and as Extension get requests for further information. Go to this site to find links to the topics and publications listed below:

Dealing with Stress - Everyone is susceptible to the stress caused by natural disasters. The following resources provide information to help you deal with stress.

- **Managing and Coping with Stress across the Lifespan**
 - ISU Extension Publications on [Managing and Coping with Stress](#)
 - [Encouraging Family Communication after a Disaster](#)—from University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
 - [Information for family caregivers](#)—from eXtension.org
 - [Coping with Disaster](#)—from Mental Health America
 - [After a Natural Disaster: Coping with Loss](#)—from University of Minnesota Extension
- **Stress in Children**
 - [Help Children Cope with a Disaster](#)—from ISU Extension
 - [Disaster Preparedness to Meet Children's Needs](#)—from American Academy of Pediatrics
 - [Helping Children Cope after Disasters](#)—from CYFERNet (Children, Youth and Families Education and Resource Network)
 - [Children's Health in the Aftermath of Floods](#)—from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 - [Children as Victims of Natural Disasters](#)—from Purdue Extension
 - [Understanding the Impact of Disasters on the Lives of Children and Youth](#)—from University of Arizona Extension
 - [Global Disasters: Helping Children Cope](#)—from National Association of School Psychologists
 - [Resources for Educators](#)—from University of Illinois Extension
 - [Resources for Parents and Teachers](#)—from FEMA for Kids
 - [School Safety and Crisis Resources](#)—from National Association of School Psychologists

Clean-up

- [Storm Recovery Guide](#) — information on safety and household cleanup after tornadoes, floods and other disasters. This guide was created by LSU AgCenter and edited by Iowa State University Extension experts for use in Iowa.
- [Resources for Your Flooded Home](#) — information to help you get your life back to normal after a flood. The guide was compiled by University of Missouri Extension.
- [Clean Up Flooded Wells Before Using the Water](#) — outlines steps to take when wells have been submerged beneath floodwater or high groundwater tables.
- [Testing Water from Private Wells](#) — information from the [State Hygienic Laboratory](#) at the University of Iowa.
- [Creating a Healthy Home: A Field Guide for Clean-up of Flooded Homes](#) — tells how to clean up after flooding, but does not describe how to rebuild. By Enterprise Community Partners Inc. and the National Center for Healthy Housing, this guide is meant for do-it-yourselfers and contractors who need to clean up mold in flooded homes before starting to rebuild or renovate.
- [Repairing Your Flooded Home](#) — gives step-by-step advice for clean up, rebuilding and getting help after a flood; by the American Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- [Rehabbing Flooded Houses: A Guide for Builders and Contractors](#) — for professional builders and contractors rehabbing flooded single-family houses; emphasizes safe practices and the most important activities in the rehab process. This guidebook from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is available in both English and Spanish.
- [Assessing, Repairing and Rebuilding Basements](#) — a series of ISU Extension publications available to download in PDF format.
- [Flood Cleanup: Avoiding Indoor Air Quality Problems](#) — discusses problems caused by microbial growth, as well as other potential effects of flooding, on long-term indoor air quality and the steps you can take to lessen these effects. This guide emphasizes residential flood cleanup, but also is applicable to other types of buildings — by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air and Radiation.
- [A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture, and Your Home](#) — provides information and guidance for homeowners and renters on how to clean up residential mold problems and how to prevent mold growth; from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Financial Concerns

- [Recovery after Disaster: The Family Financial Toolkit](#) — strategies and tools that can help you move along the road toward financial recovery. The toolkit was created by University of Minnesota Extension, North Dakota State University Extension Service and Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota.
- [Storm Recovery Guide](#) — information on documenting losses and claims, insurance and credit. This guide was created by LSU AgCenter and edited by Iowa State University Extension experts in 2008 for use in Iowa.
- [Disaster Recovery: A Guide to Financial Issues](#) — helps you regain a sense of financial balance following a disaster. This guide is a joint effort of the National Endowment for Financial Education, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the American Red Cross.
- [Price Gouging Rule Takes Effect in Six Counties](#) — (6/2/11) from the Office of the Attorney General, Iowa Department of Justice

Tips for Businesses Threatened by Floods

- [CIRAS urges importance of flood emergency planning](#)
- [Iowa Small Business Development Centers](#)

Crop Concerns - Topic-specific resources for ag-related issues following a flood are available for Iowa crop concerns from Iowa State University Extension and agricultural issues compiled by the [Extension Disaster Education Network](#).

- **Soil**
 - [Managing Flooded Soils](#)
 - [Understanding and Managing Soil Compaction](#) - PM 1901B
 - [Soil Erosion and Water Quality](#) - PM 1901E
 - [Nitrogen Loss – How Does it Happen?](#)
 - [Heavy Rain, Soil Erosion and Nutrient Losses](#)
 - [Don't Use More Pressure than Needed on Wet Soils](#)
- **Economics**
 - [Economic Impact of Delayed and Prevented Planting](#)
- **Corn**
 - [Corn Planting Guidelines](#)
 - [Replant checklist](#)
- **Soybean**
 - [How Late Can Soybeans be Planted?](#)
 - [Minimize Soybean Yield Loss from Late Planting](#)
- **Forages**
 - [Wet Spring Forage Planting Considerations](#)
 - [Renovating Pastures or Hay Meadows Damaged by Flooding](#)
- **Related Topics**
 - [Flooding and Stored Grain](#)
 - [Assessing Private Well Safety After Flooding](#)
 - [Weather and Climate](#)
 - Many of the items listed above were first published on the ISU Extension [Integrated Crop Management News](#) site.

Livestock Concerns

- **The Iowa Beef Center** has a [flood resources page for cattle producers](#).
- **Forage Crops**
 - [Forage and Cover Crop Considerations for Delayed Planting and Flooded Sites](#)
 - [Summer Flooding of Hay Fields and Pastures](#)
 - [Wet Spring Forage Planting Considerations](#)
- **Carcass Disposal**
 - [Swine Composting](#)
 - [Cattle Composting / Emergency Composting](#)
 - [DNR Dead Animal FAQ](#)
- **Other topics**
 - [Flooding and Mosquitoes](#)
 - [Livestock and Farm Buildings After a Flood](#)
- **These Iowa State University-based organizations also offer resources to the Iowa livestock industry.**
 - [Iowa Manure Management Action Group](#)
 - [Iowa Beef Center](#)
 - [Iowa Pork Industry Center](#)

Publications & Materials

Explore the ISU Extension Online Store for publications and multimedia on the following topics:

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/store/ListItems.aspx?Keyword=disaster%20recovery>

Publications on emergencies and disasters are available in **Spanish** from

- [Extensión en Español](http://extensionenespanol.net/publications.cfm?catid=171) <http://extensionenespanol.net/publications.cfm?catid=171>
- [Extension Disaster Education Network](http://texashelp.tamu.edu/008-spanish/index.php) <http://texashelp.tamu.edu/008-spanish/index.php>

First Steps to Flood Recovery - Online version at <http://www.ces.purdue.edu/floodpub/>

Printed versions available at County Extension offices.

eXtension www.eXtension.org/floods

Extension's national website, *eXtension* is an educational partnership of 74 universities that provides objective, research-based resources and information. Topics on this site include: Flooding preparation, evacuation, clean-up, check-lists and demonstration videos. Extension professionals from across the nation share what has been learned from past flooding in communities like Fargo, North Dakota and Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

County Extension Websites with Flooding Information

Woodbury County Extension <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/woodbury/>

Monona County Extension <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/monona/>

Harrison County Extension <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/harrison/>

West Pottawattamie County Extension <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/westpottawattamie/>

Mills County Extension <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/mills/>

Fremont County Extension <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/fremont/>

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