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To: dlan@polkcountyiowa.gov
Subject: Spring Flood Outlook and Recommendations
Date: Thursday, March 7, 2019 5:45:45 PM

Partners:
Today, the National Weather Service issued their second spring flood outlook for their service area. As you can imagine, the outlook is concerning. The risk of minor, moderate and major river flooding is generally above normal at all locations. This is due to 4 leading factors:
1. **Snow Pack**...the snow pack is above normal across much of the NWS Des Moines service area. Water equivalent of the snow pack ranges from a trace to generally between 2and 4inches. The highest amounts are generally across the northwestern half of the service area.
2. **Soil Moisture**...soil moisture is generally above to near record across the NWS Des Moines service area. It is highest across the north central service area.

3. **Frost Depth**...ground frost generally ranges from around 12 inches or less across the southeastern NWS Des Moines service area to more than 24 inches deep across the northwestern third of the service area.
4. **Streamflows**...streamflows generally range from near to much above normal across the NWS Des Moines service area. The Skunk River basin is running much above normal while the other basins are near or above normal.

It is important to continue monitoring weather and river conditions--as well as future outlooks--for any changes to the flood threat. Any future precipitation--as well as changes to river or other weather conditions--may increase or decrease the risk of flooding.
Our purpose is to build awareness of the current risks and promote everyday preparedness. This is not intended to create panic; rather, to build individual, family and community resiliency through preparedness. Please consider the following recommendations:

Cities, County, and Jurisdictions:

- Inventory and possibly resupply needed supplies such as sand, sandbags, and Hesko barriers
- Inventory and make ready needed equipment such as pumps, generators, light pods, etc.
- Schedule and conduct staff training so they are aware and ready to implement flood procedures and protocols
- Be aware of countywide plans for damage assessment and debris management
- Stay engaged and share information with each other and Polk County Emergency Management Agency regarding expectations, support and coordination

Individuals, Families, Households and General Public:

- Have a plan, assemble a kit with needed resources and stay informed
- Conduct an insurance review (home, life, auto, renters, flood, sump pump rider, etc.). Keep in mind that flood insurance is usually not included in your homeowner's insurance policy and it takes 30 after purchase for it to become in-force
- Inventory your household items, video, copy and digitize your important documents, family albums and scrap books
- Start or add to your emergency savings fund. 3-6 months of expenses is recommended.
- Sign up for Code Red emergency notification system and complete a Smart911 profile

at www.polkcountyiowa.gov/emergency-management/
- Put together a go-kit with supplies in a backpack or suitcase if you need to evacuate quickly.
- Help a family member or friend by checking on them and enhancing their level of readiness.

For more information visit the Polk County Emergency Management Agency's website at www.polkcountyiowa.gov/emergency-management/ or joining them on Facebook and/or Twitter.
Thank you,
A.J. Mumm, Director

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This message was sent to the following:
ESF#11 - Ag Nat Res & Pets - ARL; ESF#11 - Ag Nat Res & Pets - Parks & Rec Dir; ESF#11 - Ag. Nat. Resources & Pets; ESF#12 - Energy - All; ESF#13 - Law Enforcement - Private Security; ESF#13 - Law Enforcement - PLEXA; ESF#13 - Law Enforcement All; ESF#14 - Mitigation All; ESF#15 - Public Information - Media; ESF#15 - Public Information - PIOs; ESF#15 - Public Information All; MICRN Executive Committee; MICRN Members; NDMS Support Organizations; Saylorville High Water Event; Sub Service Area 1A

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