



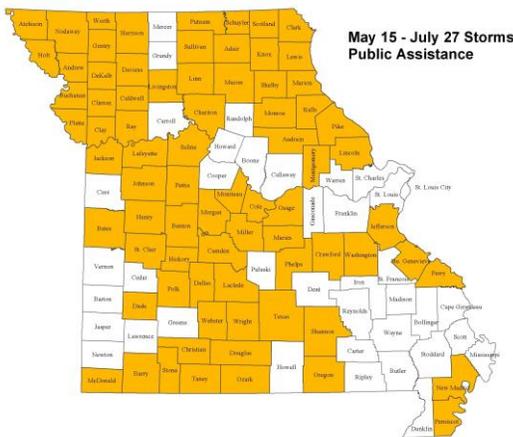
# SEMA News

Missouri State Emergency Management Agency  
*Preparedness · Response · Recovery*

Fall

2015

## 76 Missouri Counties Included in Federal Disaster Declaration



Shaded counties are included in the flooding and severe storms disaster declaration.

On Aug. 31, the federal government approved the addition of eight more counties to Missouri's Aug. 7 major disaster declaration for recurring storm systems that generated widespread flash flooding and severe storms from May 15 to July 27. The federal government had originally approved a major disaster declaration for 68 Missouri counties. The storms heavily damaged roads, bridges and other public infrastructure and resulted in at least 10 deaths. More Missouri counties are included in the declaration than any other Missouri disaster since the Great Flood of 1993.

Public assistance will allow local governments and nonprofit agencies to seek assistance for response and recovery expenses associated with the severe weather and flooding. Joint preliminary damage assessments tallied an estimated \$38 million in damage and eligible response costs.

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## Unusual Weather Pattern Creates Storms, Repeated Flooding

The series of severe storm systems that pummeled much of the state through May and June was the product of an unusual set of weather patterns that began forming in late February far to our west. These weather patterns may have been created in part by a band of warming ocean water stretching from the central Pacific to the eastern Pacific Ocean, which then moved east toward Central and South America. This phenomenon, known as El Niño, typically creates warm, moist conditions inland. A springtime El Niño is unusual, however, since it typically develops in the late fall or early winter.

"El Niño conditions usually occur late in the year, so we have little experience with forecasting what a springtime El Niño will do," said Jim Kramper, warning coordination meteorologist with the National Weather Service. "More research is needed to confirm that this early El Niño is to blame for the storms."

According to Kramper, experts think that as the El Niño developed, it changed wind patterns high above the earth, allowing tropical air from the Gulf of Mexico to flow into Missouri. Meanwhile, a series of cold fronts began forming and moving in from the west.

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## Director's Letter

**“I have been extremely impressed with the high level of communication and cooperation between local jurisdictions and SEMA, both through WebEOC and by working closely with SEMA’s regional coordinators.”**

***Ron Walker***

On August 7, Missouri received a federal major disaster declaration for the largest number of counties in any disaster here since the Great Flood of 1993. On Aug 31, it increased by eight to a total of 76. I have been extremely impressed with the high level of communication and cooperation between local jurisdictions and SEMA, both through WebEOC and by working closely with SEMA’s regional coordinators. This disaster period brought continuing rounds of flash flooding and severe storms.

At SEMA, our focus is on being responsive to the many local communities now working through the public assistance process. To that end, we have worked with FEMA to implement a different kind of field office system to get assistance to more communities faster. While FEMA has used this system for other major disasters, such as Super Storm Sandy on the East Coast in 2012, this is the first time it has been used in Missouri.

Under this system, multiple public assistance field offices are opened across the state, rather than just one joint field office (JFO) here in Jefferson City. The state is divided into five divisions, with a field office located in each division. Public assistance personnel from both SEMA and FEMA work out of a division field office to serve the communities in each division. This system puts public assistance staff closer to the communities that need their help, which should strengthen our responsiveness, service and support to local officials. FEMA believes this structure makes coordination between everyone involved much more effective and efficient. I’m interested in having your feedback.

### WEBEOC

Throughout this disaster’s response and recovery efforts, we’ve seen the highest use of WebEOC since its implementation and the heaviest use of the resource request function in a real-world incident.

This is important, because WebEOC has again proven to be an important tool for communications between local emergency managers and responders, as well as for requesting and tracking resources through the disaster. Because of the immediate local perspective it provides, WebEOC is instrumental in keeping SEMA and our partners up to date on what’s happening on the ground.

We continue to learn more about WebEOC and are constantly working to improve the system. Please provide feedback as you become more familiar with the system. We’re interested in your perspective.

### SHAKEOUT EARTHQUAKE DRILL

Next month, Missouri will again participate in the annual Great Central U.S. Shakeout. This year’s earthquake drill is on Oct. 15 at 10:15 a.m. This will be the sixth year for the statewide drill and I’m pleased with the statewide participation we’ve had in previous years. Last year, nearly one half million Missourians took part in the ShakeOut and more than 310,000 residents have already signed up for this year’s drill.

I hope you will promote the 2015 Great Central U.S. ShakeOut in your communities as a great way for people to begin or strengthen their own emergency planning and preparedness. They can find lots of helpful information on our website, as well as a link to registration and other information at: [sema.dps.mo.gov](http://sema.dps.mo.gov). Click on “Earthquakes” under the “Plan and Prepare” tab.

**Ron Walker, Director  
Missouri State Emergency Management Agency**

## Hail: A Costly History in Missouri

When Missourians think about natural disasters, it's usually about flooding and tornadoes. But Missouri has been hit by two of the nation's most damaging and costly hail storms. On April 10, 2001, a huge storm system traveled east across Missouri, dropping sheets of large hail, causing massive property damage from Kansas City to St. Louis.

In the St. Louis area, virtually every home and business in northern St. Louis County sustained some hail damage. In addition, the hundreds of newly built vehicles parked outside the Ford Motor Company assembly plant in Hazelwood were damaged, as were 24 commercial and military aircraft at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. Area auto dealerships were also blasted by the large hailstones that pulverized vehicle windshields, siding and roofs.



St. Louis-area auto dealerships reported severe hail damage from an April 2001 storm. National Weather Service photograph.



Baseball-size hailstone from a storm that struck St. Louis in April 2012. National Weather Service photograph.

The insurance claims took weeks to handle and repair work went on for months: 120,000 home claims, 65,000 auto claims and 8,000 commercial claims were submitted. Considered the most costly hailstorm in U.S. history, known insurance losses totaled \$2 billion, according to the Missouri Department of Insurance.

### SECOND MOST COSTLY HAIL STORM

On April 28, 2012, what would become the second most costly hail storm in U.S. history struck the St. Louis area. The storm dropped hailstones larger than baseballs, breaking windows in homes and businesses and shattering vehicle windshields across the metro area. The storm also blew over a party tent in downtown St. Louis, killing a man and injuring nearly 100 others.

This storm resulted in 245,000 insurance claims representing an estimated \$1.6 billion in property damage.



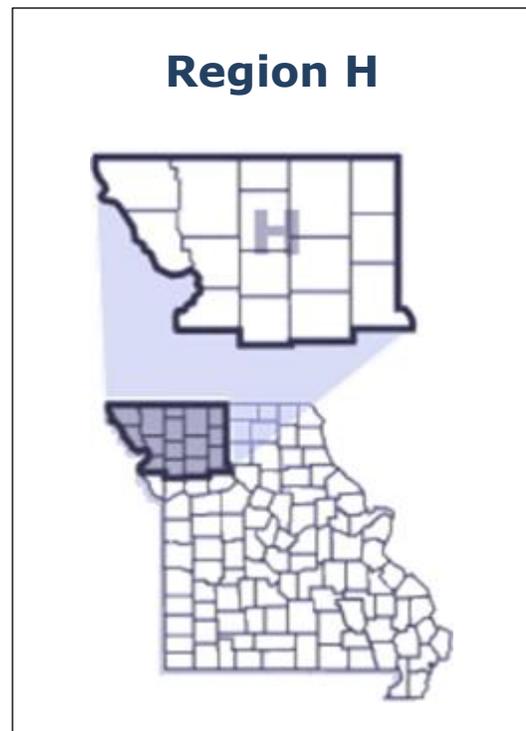
## Missouri Emergency Management Region Profile: Region H

Region H is a largely rural 15-county area in the northwest corner of Missouri, including Atchison, Andrew, Buchanan, Caldwell, Clinton, Daviess, Dekalb, Gentry, Grundy, Harrison, Holt, Livingston, Mercer, Nodaway and Worth counties. The largest cities are St. Joseph, Maryville, Cameron and Chillicothe. The region's population is more than 239,000.

Region H is home to a variety of major industries, several of which are agriculture related. These include Triumph Foods, a major pork product exporter that processes more than 6 million hogs annually in its St. Joseph plant. Other agriculture-based industries in the region include Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc., one of the largest animal vaccine and pharmaceutical companies in the world, and Case New Holland Industries, an international manufacturer of agricultural and construction machinery and vehicles. Other Region H industries include Wire Rope Corporation, Cloverleaf Cold Storage, Sonoco Plastics, Deluxe Corporation and LMP Steel.

Region H is home to five Missouri Department of Corrections institutions in Cameron, Chillicothe, Maryville and St. Joseph. The region also has nine hospitals, the largest of which is MOSAIC Life Care in St. Joseph, which is a Level II trauma center.

Northwest Missouri State University (NWMSU) in Maryville, Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph and North Central Missouri College in Trenton, as well as several smaller university campuses and technical centers, are located in the region. NWMSU offers a B.S. in emergency and disaster management. Each year, the university partners with Region H emergency services agencies and other related organizations to conduct the Missouri Hope domestic disaster response exercise. This three-day, full-scale exercise provides students and other participants with the opportunity to respond to natural disaster-related events. Hillyard Vocational Technical School in St. Joseph and Grand River Vocational Technical School in Chillicothe also offer fire and emergency services training.



Six major highways pass through and intersect in Region H. Interstate highways are I-29 and I-35; U.S. routes are 36, 69, 71 and 136.

The largest airport in Region H is Rosecrans Memorial Airport in St. Joseph. Serving as a general aviation/military joint-use airport, Rosecrans is also home to the Missouri Air National Guard's 139<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing. Hunting, fishing and other outdoor sportsmen are drawn year round to the many sporting lakes, rivers and wetlands located in Region H. Thousands of aircraft enthusiasts also attend air shows held each year in St. Joseph and Cameron to watch modern and vintage military and civilian aircraft fly and perform aerial demonstrations.

In October 2014, more than half of Region H counties were among the 20 northern Missouri counties included in a federal major disaster declaration that was granted for public assistance after a severe storm system moved through in mid-September. Parts of the region sustained significant damage to schools and other public buildings from straight-line winds.

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## Region H Emergency Management Directors

### Bill Brinton, Buchanan County

Bill Brinton has been Buchanan County EMD for nearly 11 years. He is also the county safety director, flood plain manager and storm water manager. Brinton also serves as director for the Region H Homeland Security Regional Response System and as the liaison officer for the Southwest Missouri Incident Support Team. Brinton's previous experience includes serving as the assistant city manager for St. Joseph. He also was as a police officer there and worked as the police department's director of research and planning. He assisted in writing the city's first emergency operations plan and was the first chairperson of the St. Joseph/Buchanan County disaster planning committee.

Brinton holds an associate's degree in law enforcement and B.S. degrees in law enforcement and business administration. He also holds an M.S. in criminal justice/law enforcement administration.

For Brinton, the most rewarding aspect of his work is serving the people of Buchanan County, St. Joseph and Region H.

Brinton and his wife, Kathy, live in St. Joseph. Together they have six children and five grandchildren.

### Christy Forney, City of Maryville

Christy Forney has served as Maryville's part-time EMD since 2007. She works full-time as the administrative assistant for the Maryville Department of Public Safety. In that role, one of her responsibilities was updating and rewriting the city's local emergency operations plan. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in criminal justice.

Forney says the biggest challenge she faces as an EMD is staying current on changing technology, and the different laws and regulations related to emergency management. One of the most rewarding parts of being an EMD, according to Forney, is being able to build partnerships across Region H and the entire state, especially with the other EMDs. She also enjoys making a difference by helping her community, either through education and outreach or during times of disaster when resources are greatly needed.

Foreny is a native and life-long resident of Nodaway County. She has two children, Madeline and Cole.

### George Pease, Caldwell County

George Pease has served as Caldwell County EMD for two years. He is also a business owner in the automation technologies field. He has served as a volunteer firefighter since 1989 and works in emergency communications as an amateur radio operator.

Pease says his biggest challenge is working with a limited budget and limited manpower, as well as trying to learn, enact and keep informed on all the responsibilities associated with emergency management. He is also challenged in his effort to improve the county's emergency communications and alerting.

Pease says his greatest reward is when people appreciate his efforts. He is gratified by the respect he's shown by the jurisdictions he works with and by the citizens in the county.

Forney and his wife, Melody, live in Hamilton. They have one son and one grandson.

### Glen Briggs, Grundy County

Glen Briggs became Grundy County EMD in 2012. He also works full-time for Walmart. He has been a member of the local emergency planning committee since 2000. He has been an avid amateur radio operator since 1995.

Briggs says that the greatest challenge he faces as an EMD is improving the image of emergency management and building support among the communities with which he works.

According to Briggs, the most rewarding part of his work in emergency management is the opportunity to work with groups to promote emergency awareness and preparation in the county.

Briggs and his wife, Katie, have a five year-old daughter, Madison.

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Find SEMA News on the SEMA website under "News and Publications."

[www.sema.dps.mo.gov](http://www.sema.dps.mo.gov)

### **Jim Boothe, Gentry County**

Jim Boothe is in his first year as Gentry County EMD. He was appointed to the position in October 2014 after retiring from a career in education. Boothe served as principal of Albany R-III High School for five years and was a teacher in the Albany school district for 27 years. During that time, he served as the school district's safety officer and also coached high school football, basketball and track.

Boothe said the most rewarding part of serving as EMD is being able to provide a service to Gentry County and assisting its residents during emergencies.

Boothe is a native and life-long resident of Gentry County.

### **Rhonda Wiley, Atchison County**

Rhonda Wiley became Atchison County EMD in 2004. She also serves as county 911 director and county floodplain administrator.

Wiley's emergency response experience includes working in emergency medical services as a paramedic, including 12 years with Cox Health Systems in Ava. She still assists the Atchison-Holt Ambulance District when the need arises.

Wiley says balancing the combined responsibilities of her EMD and 911 roles provides plenty of professional challenge.

Wiley says that assisting people brings her the greatest satisfaction in her job.

Wiley and her husband, Jack, live in the St. Joseph area. Together, they have four children and seven grandchildren.

### **Roger Latham, Andrew County**

Roger Latham is Andrew County EMD, a part-time position he has held for 10 years. He was named to the post after retiring from a 19-year career in law enforcement. Previously, he served in the U.S. Army for 22 years.

Latham says that one of the greatest challenges he faces is keeping up with all the changes and needed improvements.

Latham says that one of his greatest rewards is having someone thank him for information they gained in a class or through emergency alerts during a severe storm.

Latham is a native of Savannah, where he lives with his wife, Alice. They have four children and five grandchildren.

### **John Barclay, Harrison County**

John Barclay has served as Harrison County deputy EMD since 2008. He also serves as chief of EMS for the Bethany Ambulance District, Region H EMS mutual aid coordinator and chairman of the Northwest EMS Council. He is also a firefighter and certified public safety diver, currently volunteering with the Bethany Fire Department.

Barclay is a second-generation firefighter and career paramedic who has worked in emergency services most of his life. In addition to working as a firefighter and paramedic, he has been a 911 dispatcher and a sheriff's department detention officer.

Barclay says the most challenging part of his job is also the most rewarding – working closely with other emergency management partners in cooperative emergency planning and preparedness efforts.

Barclay and his wife, Keri, live in Bethany and have four children. Keri is an emergency department RN for the Harrison County Community Hospital and also serves as the hospital's disaster response coordinator.

### **Phillip Martz, Harrison County**

Phillip Martz has been the part-time Harrison County EMD for 14 years. He works full-time as an electrical contractor.

Martz's emergency management experience includes serving in the emergency medical, fire and rescue services.

Martz says the biggest challenge he faces as an EMD is operating with little or no funds.

For Martz, the most rewarding aspect of his work is providing assistance to the public when they need it most.

Martz and his wife, Janie, live in Harrison County, where Martz has lived most of his life.

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**[brian.quinn@sema.dps.mo.gov](mailto:brian.quinn@sema.dps.mo.gov)**

**Use the subject "SEMA News."**

### **Darrell Wright, Livingston County**

Darrell Wright serves as EMD for Chillicothe, where he also serves as chief of the Chillicothe Fire Department and the EMS director for both Chillicothe and Livingston County. He has worked as a Chillicothe firefighter and in EMS for more than 30 years.

Chief Wright currently serves on the board of directors for the Missouri Association of Fire Chiefs and for Northwest Missouri EMS. He also serves as Region H Homeland Security Oversight Committee chairperson.

Chief Wright is an instructor in the fire and EMS programs at Grand River Technical School in Chillicothe. He holds a B.A. in medical management. He is a Missouri licensed paramedic, a certified emergency manager and holds several certificates in firefighting and EMS.

### **Blair Shock, Clinton County**

Blair Shock has served part-time as Clinton County EMD since 2009. He also serves full-time as administrator of the Clinton County Health Department. His experience includes serving as a firefighter and information technology specialist for a law enforcement agency and for a communications consulting company.

Shock says the biggest challenge he faces is wearing so many hats and finding time to complete all of his agency's goals.

According to Shock, the most rewarding aspect of serving as Clinton County EMD is the family-like bond he has developed with Region H's other EMDs.

Shock grew up in the Branson area and attended Missouri State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in conservation management.

Shock and his wife, Kristy, live in Cameron with their two children, Josie and Eliza.

### **Mark Thompson, Mercer County**

Mark Thompson has served as Mercer County EMD on a volunteer basis for over 10 years. He also works full-time as the general manager for a school bus contracting company.

Thompson has worked in emergency services since 1982, when he began working as an EMT with the Mercer County Ambulance District.

Thompson said the greatest reward he has had while working in emergency management is when both of his children made the commitment to also

work in the emergency services field. His daughter, Dawn, is as an RN and also serves as a firefighter. His son, Dakota, is an EMT, firefighter and serves as assistant EMD for Mercer County.

### **Harold Allison, DeKalb County**

Harold Allison has served as DeKalb County EMD and presiding commissioner since January 2012. Previously, he served 16 years with the Missouri Air National Guard and attained the rank of chief master sergeant. While serving with the Air Guard, Allison worked in disaster preparedness and air crew life support.

Allison says the most challenging aspect of being an EMD is staying current on the constantly changing rules and regulations, as well as keeping current on the required documentation.

For Allison, serving his community is the most rewarding part of his job.

### **Pat Kobbe, Worth County**

Pat Kobbe has served part-time as Worth County EMD since 1996. She and her husband own a seed business and operate an auction service.

Prior to becoming an EMD, Kobbe worked as an extension home economist for the University of Missouri for 12 years.

Kobbe says that, because all Worth County emergency responders are volunteers and have full-time jobs, her greatest challenge as EMD is finding time for training.

For Kobbe, the most rewarding aspect of her job is when a training session and exercise comes together successfully. She also gets satisfaction from working with the county commissioners, citizens and the other Region H EMDs.

Kobbe and her husband, Ralph, live in Grant City. Together they have three grown children and eight grandchildren.

### **Mark Sitherwood, Holt County**

Mark Sitherwood became Holt County EMD in 2011. He also serves as county presiding commissioner and is a farmer.

Sitherwood says his biggest challenges are balancing the different demands of being an EMD, an elected official and a farmer.

Sitherwood says the most rewarding aspect of his job is working with citizens to recover from disasters.

**(Continued on next page)**

### Julie Alt, City of St. Joseph

Julie Alt was named St. Joseph EMD on May 11, 2015. Previously, she served as an emergency management specialist for Clay County, managing grants, writing emergency response plans, organizing volunteer groups, serving on regional planning committees and providing outreach and education for community disaster preparedness.

Before joining Clay County, Alt worked in emergency services at the Mid-America Regional Council in Kansas City. While there, she supported the Metropolitan Emergency Managers Committee, Citizen Preparedness, Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee, Local Emergency Preparedness Committee and Mid-America Regional Emergency Rescue Committee. She also administered federal urban area and state grants.

In 2014, Alt was the fourth person from Missouri to graduate from the FEMA Emergency Management Institute's National Emergency Management Basic Academy.

### Robert "Keith" Wood, City of Maryville

Keith Wood has served as Maryville EMD since 1989. Wood also has nearly 40 years of law enforcement experience, including service as a police patrolman, detective, sergeant and lieutenant, then serving as assistant chief of the Clinton Police Department.

Wood holds a B.S. in criminal justice administration and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. He serves as an adjunct professor at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville.

Wood serves on the Missouri Police Chiefs Association board of directors and is past president of the Missouri Peace Officers Association. In 1998, Gov. Mel Carnahan appointed Wood to the Missouri Juvenile Justice Advisory Group and he served on the national executive board for the Coalition of Juvenile Justice. Wood and his wife, Christina, have three grown children and four grandchildren.



Each year schools across Missouri participate in the ShakeOut drill.

## Learning, Practicing Earthquake Safety is Focus of Annual ShakeOut Drill

At 10:15 a.m. on Oct. 15, hundreds of thousands of Missourians will simultaneously participate in the 2015 Great Central U.S. ShakeOut, the annual statewide earthquake drill. The ShakeOut is an opportunity for people to practice the three basic steps to staying safer during an earthquake: Drop, Cover and Hold On.

Virtually anyone can take part in the ShakeOut, including families, businesses, community groups and even entire communities. To participate, simply register for the event online and then conduct a drill on or around Oct. 15.

When holding a ShakeOut drill, have people take at least these three actions:

- **DROP** to the ground before the earthquake drops you;
- Take **COVER** under a nearby desk or table; and,
- **HOLD ON** to that item until the shaking stops so you are protected from falling items.

To register and for more information, go to [shakeout.org/centralus](http://shakeout.org/centralus). You can register as an individual or family, or choose another category, such as school, business or volunteer organization.

### KNOWLEDGE, PRACTICE KEY TO STAYING SAFE

Learning what to do when an earthquake occurs and then practicing those safety measures regularly are key steps to staying safe during an earthquake.

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## Winter Weather Awareness Day Focuses on Weather Hazards Planning

To increase Missourians' awareness of winter weather hazards and to stress the importance of early preparation, the National Weather Service (NWS) has designated Nov. 18 as Winter Weather Awareness Day. Cosponsored by SEMA, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and Missouri's emergency management community, the annual awareness day provides a good opportunity for people to take some basic steps to prepare for winter weather.

Here are some basic winter storm preparations Missourians should make:

- Create a family winter emergency plan and an emergency kit.
- Assemble a separate vehicle emergency kit.
- Avoid driving when conditions include sleet, freezing rain or drizzle, snow or dense fog.
- Protect against frostbite and hypothermia.
- Stay current on winter weather forecasts.
- Understand the dangers that come with using alternate heating and lighting during power outages.

For more helpful tips on preparing for severe winter weather, go to [sema.dps.mo.gov](http://sema.dps.mo.gov). Power outage tips are available at: [dfs.dps.mo.gov/safetytips/power-outage-safety.php](http://dfs.dps.mo.gov/safetytips/power-outage-safety.php).

### Winter Weather Advisories

Know three key terms the NWS uses when issuing winter weather advisories:

**Winter Storm Watch** – Severe winter weather may affect your area within 12-48 hours.

**Winter Storm Warning** – Severe winter weather is in the area or expected immediately and can be life threatening.

**Ice Storm Warnings** – Ice accumulations of a quarter-inch or more are expected.



First public assistance applicant briefing held on Aug. 14 at the State Emergency Operations Center, Jefferson City.

## Federal Disaster Declaration

(Continued from page 1)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimburses 75 percent of eligible expenses and the state of Missouri pays 10 percent.

“Osage County is extremely fortunate to be included in the federal disaster reimbursement process,” said Andrea Rice, Osage County EMD. “We are a small county with a limited budget, so this assistance will allow us to repair our roads back to pre-disaster condition without completely disrupting our county’s finances.”

### SBA LOANS NOW AVAILABLE

Residents and business owners in 16 eastern Missouri counties with property damage from the storms can now apply for low-interest loan assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). At Gov. Nixon’s request, SBA issued a disaster declaration covering the period from May 15 to July 27 for Jefferson, Lincoln and Marion counties, making residents and business owners in those counties and 13 contiguous counties eligible for SBA assistance. The contiguous counties are Franklin, Lewis, Monroe, Montgomery, Pike, Ralls, St. Charles, St. Francois, St. Louis, Ste. Genevieve, Shelby, Warren and Washington.

To help people meet the Oct. 19 application deadline, in-person assistance from SBA representatives will be available at Disaster Loan Outreach Centers located in Festus, Palmyra and Troy. The centers will be open through Sept. 10.

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## Federal Disaster Declaration

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Gov. Nixon first declared a state of emergency on June 18. Four weeks later, the Governor extended the state of emergency until Aug. 14.

“More than half of Missouri has been hit by a damaging and prolonged weather system that’s brought record rainfall to much of the state and led to extensive damage to public infrastructure and private property and led to tragic deaths,” Gov. Nixon said. “Communities across the state have been hit with extensive response and rebuilding expenses. This means that federal assistance will be available to help with eligible expenses.”

### MULTI-AGENCY RESOURCE CENTERS OPENED

To provide residents affected by the recent storms with convenient, one-stop access to disaster assistance, SEMA set up Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MARC) in five communities: Mosby, Taylor, Festus, Cassville and Brookfield.

Non-governmental organizations represented at the MARCs included the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army. Participating state agencies were the departments of Health and Senior Services, Mental Health, Insurance and the Family Support Division of the Department of Social Services, along with the University of Missouri Extension. Local health departments provided public health information and services.

“To conduct PDAs for a total of 76 counties included in the disaster declaration has been a real challenge,” said SEMA Director Ron Walker. “The close coordination we’ve had at the local, state and federal levels was key to compiling the massive amount of information required to complete the assessments and I’m proud of what we’ve accomplished together.”

## Unusual Weather Pattern

(Continued from page 1)

Each time the cool, dry air collided with the warm, moist boundary, a new unstable system was created. The new system often stalled just south of Missouri before rushing north across the state, triggering repeated storms and heavy rain. The weeks-long pattern of heavy rainfall led to flash flooding of creeks and streams and wide-spread

## June 2015 Rainfall Totals

City	County	Rainfall
Troy	Lincoln	20.15 in.
Kirksville	Adair	18.28 in.
Cap au Gris	Lincoln	17.75 in.
Monticello	Lewis	17.38 in.
Edina	Knox	16.84 in.
Middletown	Montgomery	16.82 in.

flooding along larger rivers, causing significant damage to roads and public infrastructure. According to the Missouri Department of Transportation, about 870 roads had to be closed due to flooding.

### RECORD RAINFALL

Rainfall data from the Missouri Climate Center at the University of Missouri shows the combined statewide rainfall average for May and June approached 15 inches, making it the fifth wettest May-June on record.

The heaviest rain fell over northeastern, east-central and west-central Missouri. A few areas reported more than 15 inches for the month of June alone. Troy, in Lincoln County, reported 20.15 inches for June, about half the average rainfall for an entire year.

According to climatologists, El Niño is still influencing our weather and continues to strengthen. In fact, it has grown so powerful it has earned the nickname “Bruce Lee.” In addition experts say this El Niño is likely to impact the nation’s weather pattern through this winter and into early spring 2016.

Typically, a strong El Niño increases the chance of a warmer winter across the northern United States and a stormier, wetter winter in the south. The Midwest could experience above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation this winter, though only time will tell how this El Niño will affect Missouri’s weather in the coming months.



## New SEMA Earthquake Program Manager Named



On August 1, Jeff Briggs became SEMA's new earthquake program manager succeeding Steve Besemer. Briggs brings 25 years of experience in state government communications, planning and training. He has worked at the Missouri Department of Transportation

in public information and with SEMA's Public Assistance section. Briggs will head SEMA's earthquake preparedness and outreach activities, as well as coordinate operations with the Missouri Seismic Safety Commission and the Missouri SAVE (Structural Assessment and Visual Evaluation) Coalition.

## Annual ShakeOut Drill

(Continued from page 8)

For example, ground shaking is usually not the cause of earthquake-related injuries and deaths. Most are caused by collapsing walls and roofs, flying glass and falling objects. That's why it is so important to move only a short distance to reach a safe place during the shaking.

SEMA reminds Missourians that earthquakes happen nearly every day in this part of the country, although most are too small to be felt. Earthquakes occur without warning, which is why people should know what to do before an earthquake occurs.

Follow Missouri's Great Central U.S. ShakeOut on Facebook at [facebook.com/MissouriShakeOut](https://www.facebook.com/MissouriShakeOut), and on Twitter at [twitter.com/MOShakeOut](https://twitter.com/MOShakeOut).

Learn more about earthquake preparedness at [www.sema.dps.mo.gov](http://www.sema.dps.mo.gov).

## SEMA TRAINING SCHEDULE • 2015

DATE	EVENT DETAILS	LOCATION
Sept.-Oct.	Hazardous Materials Incident Response: Awareness POST approved; Sponsor: MERC <b>Note: Multiple dates, times and locations offered. For details:</b> <a href="http://training.dps.mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/TrainingSchedule?OpenForm">http://training.dps.mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/TrainingSchedule?OpenForm</a>	
Sept.-Oct.	Hazardous Materials Incident Response: Operations POST approved; Sponsor: MERC <b>Note: Multiple dates, times and locations offered. For details:</b> <a href="http://training.dps.mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/TrainingSchedule?OpenForm">http://training.dps.mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/TrainingSchedule?OpenForm</a>	
Sept.- Nov.	Railroad Emergency Response and Hazardous Materials Awareness POST approved; Sponsor: MERC <b>Note: Multiple dates, times and locations offered. For details:</b> <a href="http://training.dps.mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/TrainingSchedule?OpenForm">http://training.dps.mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/TrainingSchedule?OpenForm</a>	
Sept. 1-3	ICS300 Intermediate Incident Command System POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Chillicothe Fire Dept.
Sept. 1-2	Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Jefferson City Police Dept.
Sept. 10	Emergency Operations Plans for Rural Jurisdictions POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Sikeston Dept. of Public Safety
Sept. 11-12	Handling Propane Gas Emergencies Time: 9/11: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.; 9/12: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. POST approved; Sponsor: MERC	Sac Osage Fire Protection Dist., Osceola

Sept. 12	Hazmat IQ Training Time: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. POST approved; Sponsor: MERC	Jefferson County Hazmat Bldg., Herculaneum
Sept. 12	Hazmat Victim Decon for EMS Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sponsor: MERC	Rosecrans MAP Fire Dept., St Joseph
Sept. 15-17	Law Enforcement Active Shooter Emergency Response, Train the Trainer POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	West Plains Civic Center
Sept. 15-16	EOC Management And Operations (APS Required Course) POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Economic Development Alliance Bldg., Kirksville
Sept. 19	Hazmat IQ Training Time: 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. POST approved; Sponsor: MERC	Lincoln County Fire Protection District #1, Troy
Sept. 22-23	Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Training Course (APS Elective Course) POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Jefferson City Police Dept.
Sept. 23-24	Mass Prophylaxis Preparedness and Planning POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Freeman Health Center Conference Center, Joplin
Sept. 26	Ignitable Liquids Ethanol Blended Fuels Time: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sponsor: MERC	Hickory County Fire Rescue Base, Wheatland
Sept. 26	Hazmat Victim Decon for EMS Time: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sponsor: MERC	Kirksville Fire Dept.
Oct. 6-7	All-Hazards Liaison Officer (LOFR) Course POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Region H HSRT Bldg., St. Joseph
Oct. 7-8	Community Mass Care and Emergency Assistance (APS Elective Course) Sponsor: SEMA	Fire Station #3 Cape Girardeau
Oct. 14-15	ICS400 Advanced Incident Command System POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Chillicothe Fire Dept.
Oct. 20-22	Basic Public Information Officer Training (APS Elective Course) POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Raytown Fire Protection Dist.
Nov. 3-5	EOC Emergency Operations for All-Hazards Events POST approved; Sponsor: SEMA	Jefferson City Police Dept.

**Note: This list does not include invitation-only or local offering-only events. View the complete SEMA training schedule with details on the SEMA website’s Training and Exercises page.**