Linn County Emergency Management Responds to Storm Impacts

LINN COUNTY, IA – August 12, 2020 – Linn County Emergency Management continues to respond and align resources in response to the Monday, August 10 storm. Current priorities include medical assistance, debris removal, and power access. Information regarding food, shelters, and volunteer opportunities will be communicated once it is available.

Medical Assistance
The following locations are open for residents that need a place to go to charge medical equipment or need a day shelter. Medical supplies are not available at these locations. Residents are asked to visit their medical care supply provider for new oxygen tanks, diabetic supplies, etc.

Anderson Public Library - Center Point Community Room
720 Main St
Center Point, IA 52213
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Special Instructions: Social distancing – only outlets with red-covered plates have power

City of Hiawatha Community Center
101 Emmons St
Hiawatha, IA 52233
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

City of Palo Community Center
2800 Hollenbeck Rd
Palo, IA 52324
Hours of Operations
Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

City of Robins Community Center
265 S.2nd Street
Robins, IA 52328
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

City of Springville City Hall
304 Broadway Street
Springville, IA 52336
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Debris Removal
Road crews across the county are continuing to remove debris from roads and sidewalks. This work will be ongoing. No timeline for completion is available at this time.

Debris removal on private property is the property owner’s responsibility. If assistance is needed for debris removal, owners are encouraged to reach out to local contractors for assessments and cost estimates. Use caution when hiring unknown or out-of-state contractors. Be sure to get a quote for work and don’t pay up front for removal or repair services. Contact your insurance company for information regarding damage claims.

Debris collection and removal instructions are jurisdiction specific. Please see below for the information available at this time. If your area is not listed, please contact your jurisdiction directly.

Cedar Rapids
When possible, keep debris out of the streets and off of sidewalks. Only stack debris in the area between the street and sidewalk, or behind the curb and/or sidewalk. Stack non-tree debris in separate, distinct piles. Do not mix tree debris with other rubble, such as glass, shingles, gutters, etc. Keep alleys clear of debris – only use the street right-of-way for debris collection.

If possible, cut branches into sections no larger than 10 feet in length. Trunks of large diameters should be halved or quartered into smaller sections until they are able to be easily moved. Additional information related to tree removal and debris pickup will be issued as it becomes available. Visit the City of Cedar Rapids website for more.

Center Point
Large tree debris can be placed on the curbside. City crews will begin removing debris on Thursday, August 13.

Fairfax
Dumpsters will be available at City Hall for building debris once they are emptied. Tree debris should be placed on the grass next to the curb and the City will remove it as soon as possible. Be sure not to block fire hydrants or storm sewers.

Hiawatha
The City has started picking up debris throughout the city. Residents are asked to cut branches into sections 12-feet lengths or less. Tree debris needs to be separated from other storm debris and placed between the curb and sidewalk for pickup. The removal process is estimated to take a minimum of 2-3 weeks. Additional information about debris removal and debris drop-off locations can be found on the City of Hiawatha website.

Marion
Yard waste can be placed between the curb and the street for future collection or taken to the Yard Waste Drop-Off Facility on 35th Street. It is against Marion city code to burn yard waste. Updated storm related information can be found on the City of Marion website.
Lisbon
Residents can place storm debris in the right-of-way for pick. Large pieces should be broken up as much as possible. The City will have a dumpster located at City Hall later this week or early next for the disposal of spoiled food and other non-tree storm related debris.

Mount Vernon
Tree and limb debris should be taken to Elliot Park for disposal. Two dumpsters will be available in the municipal pool parking lot at Davis Park for non-tree storm related debris disposal.

Palo
Tree debris can be taken to the boat ramp, 7th Street, and City Hall. Construction material debris can be disposed of at City Hall. Additional information will be available Thursday.

Robins
Residents are asked to place debris on the curb or haul it to South Troy Park for grinding. There is no location available for construction-related debris. The City will provide information regarding disposal options for food waste at a later date.

Springville
Residents are asked to take their yard waste to 169 JR Barns Pkwy for disposal. There is a dumpster available at the new elementary on 5th Street for recyclable tin and metals. A dumpster for shingles will be available at the new elementary on Thursday, August 13, 2020.

Walford
Residents are asked to take reasonably sized tree debris to the wastewater treatment plant located at 4th Street South for disposal. Large branches can be left at the curb to be removed by Asplundh in the coming weeks. There are two dumpsters located at the Community Center for construction materials only.

Unincorporated Linn County
Rural residents needing to dispose of tree debris on their own can take it to either Solid Waste Agency location, 1953 County Home Road, north of Marion and 2250 A Street SW, Cedar Rapids. Regular hours of operation are in effect at both locations.

Yard waste is accepted for $24 per ton, with a $5 minimum. Fees remain in place because operational costs to handle the material are the same. Retain all your receipts in case you can submit them for reimbursement via insurance or a disaster relief program.

Burn permit requirements in unincorporated Linn County are deferred by the Linn County Board of Supervisors through September 30, 2020. This action allows the open burning of storm related landscape waste, including trees and tree trimmings in unincorporated Linn County outside of the city limits of Cedar Rapids, Marion and Hiawatha until September 30, 2020. This includes all properties within the ½ mile buffer zone around these cities.

It is illegal to burn waste, including storm debris, within the city limits of Cedar Rapids, Marion, and Hiawatha. Please contact your city hall for additional information regarding local open burning ordinances.

Please contact the Linn County Cedar Rapids Solid Waste Agency for questions regarding hazardous material disposal.
Power Outages
Crews from Alliant Energy and Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative are working to restore power from outages caused by the storm. Please visit your electrical provider’s website for the latest information and to view outage maps. Questions regarding service restoration should be directed to your provider.

Cellular and Internet Service
Cellular and internet service remain limited throughout Linn County. Providers are working to repair issues as quickly as possible. Please contact your provider directly with questions regarding service.

Water
Water in Linn County remains safe to consume in Linn County. Linn EMA will provide an updated statement if an accessibility issue arises.

If you are in need of additional assistance, 211 is working and can connect you to resources. To reach 211, dial 211 on any phone, text your zip code to 899211, or visit 211iowa.org.

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