

Flash Report



Polk County
Emergency Management Agency
1907 Carpenter Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50314
515-286-2107

Describe the Incident:

The National Weather Service in Des Moines has issued a Heat Advisory, which is in effect from 1 PM Friday, June 15 to 7 PM CDT Sunday, June 17. High temperatures will range from 95 to 99 degrees. With dew points in the low 70s, heat index values will range from 100 to 105 degrees throughout this time. Lack of overnight relief from the heat will lead to additional stress. Strong daytime winds will increase the risk of dehydration. The prolonged nature of this event will compound and amplify heat-related impacts. All outdoor interests this weekend should plan to take appropriate precautions for potentially hazardous heat.

Injuries Reported:

Please report heat-related injuries and illnesses to Polk County Emergency Management 515.286.3430 or chris.frantsvog@polkcountyiowa.gov

Deaths Reported

Please report heat related deaths to Polk County Emergency Management 515.286.3430 or chris.frantsvog@polkcountyiowa.gov

Actions Taken:

Base Plan:

EOC Activation Level 5 Monitoring.

Existing resources and capabilities are not necessarily coordinated outside of their own jurisdiction or outside of their immediate discipline. Normal administrative, planning, training, and exercise activities are scheduled and carried out.

ESF 1: Transportation:

DART is giving FREE bus rides to and from daytime cooling centers and emergency homeless shelters on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Riders need to inform the driver they are going to or from a cooling center or emergency homeless shelter. //PARATRANSIT: Someone needing paratransit transport service during the heat emergency can call 515-283-8105 to request a ride (Friday 6am-11pm, Saturday 6am-7pm, Sunday 7am-6pm). Paratransit will need their address, phone number, and destination. Operators are not allowed to enter someone's residence. They may assist an individual only to and from the door to the residence. There is a potential for infrastructure impacts, please monitor for buckling roads.

ESF 2: Communications:

United Way 211 is giving out information for daytime cooling centers (including the extended hours on Saturday (5-9pm) and Sunday (5-9pm) at the Polk County Health Department at 1907 Carpenter Avenue); tips on keeping safe during the heat; free rides by DART to Cooling Centers and Homeless Shelters; and additional resources. Heat safety tips and materials are available at the Polk County Health website www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health and social media (Facebook/Twitter).

ESF 3: Public Works & Engineering:

Monitoring for infrastructure impacts.

ESF 4: Firefighting:

Fire departments are encouraged to have responder rehab capabilities for all responses to mitigate responder fatigue.

ESF 5: Emergency Management:

Coordination briefings occurring as needed. Publishing flash reports and Facebook/Twitter updates on regular basis. Actively monitoring Heat Health Warning System.

ESF 6: Mass Care & Human Services:

Daytime Cooling Centers are available throughout the community for respite from the heat. Up to date information on Cooling Center locations and hours of operation are located at Polk County Health Department website as PDF and online map, which includes DART routes. Not all cooling centers are open on weekends, so look closely at hours of operation when looking at the cooling center list for Saturday, Sunday and Holidays. To access the Cooling Center List go to www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health. //EXTENDED HOURS: The Polk County Health Department will be open only as a cooling center on Saturday (5-9pm) and Sunday (5-9pm). Water and air conditioning space available to residents to have a place to go to get out of the heat. The Polk County Health Department will not offer regular services and will only be open as a cooling center on Saturday, June 16, 2018 and Sunday, June 17, 2018. //EMERGENCY SHELTERS: Emergency shelters will be available during the weekend (More information in the Additional Detail section).

ESF 7: Resource Support:

Normal operations

ESF 8: Public Health / Medical Services:

Polk County Health Department is actively conducting Surveillance to identify trends in heat related illness, coordinating with the National Weather Service, monitoring Heat Health Warning System, Educating the public, updating social media, communicating with internal/external partners about extreme heat situation.

ESF 9: Search & Rescue:

Responder rehab will be a priority see ESF #4.

ESF 10: Hazardous Materials:

Responder rehab will be a priority see ESF #4.

ESF 11: Agriculture, Natural Resources, Pets:

The Animal Rescue League is a Daytime Cooling Center and welcomes residents come to their Main Location at 5452 NE 22nd Street in Des Moines for people get out of the heat and cool off with their pets. Call the ARL 515-262-9503 for more information hours of operation at the ARL Cooling Center. Pets should never be left unattended in a car. It doesn't take long for an animal to overheat in a hot vehicle. The ARL reminds people to act immediately if they see a distressed animal in an unattended car. In the city of Des Moines, residents can call ARL Animal Care & Control at (515) 283-4811. Residents outside of Des Moines can call their local law enforcement's nonemergency phone number. Animals should have access to plenty of drinking water in hot weather. For Community Partners, the Animal Rescue League will supply animal crates or supplies at your site for pets, if someone does not want to leave their pet at home or in the car. Please contact Scott Wilson at 515-229-7392 or Josh Colvin at 515-979-4229 information about on-site crates and supplies.

ESF 12: Energy:

Monitor for infrastructure impacts to include capacity issues.

ESF 13: Law Enforcement:

Responder rehab will be a priority see ESF #4.

ESF 14: Mitigation & Recovery:

Normal operations

ESF 15: Public Information:

Temperatures will be very hot and humid with little to no overnight cooling. If individuals are working out spending an extended amount of time outdoors, please use caution. Avoid being outdoors during the hottest part of the day 11 AM to 4 PM. If you do have to be outdoors,

take plenty of breaks under shade or wear a hat. Drink plenty of water long before going outside. Don't wait until you are thirsty. Avoid caffeinated and alcoholic beverages.

Watch for signs of heat-related illnesses. Seek medical care immediately if you have, or someone you know has, symptoms of heat-related illness like muscle cramps, headaches, nausea or vomiting.

There are daytime cooling centers around the county that are available for individuals who do not have air conditioning and need a place to go to get out of the heat. DART will provide free transportation to cooling centers and homeless shelters. Check the cooling center list at www.polkcountyiowa.gov to find a daytime cooling center near you. On the weekend, be sure to check cooling center hours as not all cooling centers are open on Saturday and Sunday. There are cooling centers open at night and weekends. The Polk County Health Department will be open as cooling center on Saturday, June 16, 2018 (5-9pm) and Sunday, June 17, 2018 (5-9pm).

Community partners: Visit the Polk County Health Department website www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health and social media channels (Facebook/Twitter) for additional information.

Incident / Event Trend:

Escalating Stable De-Escalating

Resources Assigned:

Polk County Public Health and Polk County Emergency Management Monitoring the situation. Flash reports will continue as needed.

Resources Requested:

None

Additional Detail:

Emergency shelters are available from Friday, June 15, 2018 to Sunday, June 17, 2018. Central Iowa Shelters (1420 Mulberry St, Des Moines) is providing amnesty and will welcome everyone to use their facilities during the day until 3:30pm. . More flexible hours and accommodations will be available at Central Iowa Shelters on a case-by-case basis due to the extreme heat. Men and women 18 and older will be able to stay overnight. /// Iowa Homeless Youth Center (612 Locust St, Des Moines) welcomes 16-21 years old to use their facility during the day. On Friday 10am-6pm and on Sunday 10am-2pm the Iowa Homeless Shelter is open for youth to get out of the heat. The Iowa Homeless Youth Center is closed on Saturday/// Bethel Mission Men's Shelter (1310 6th Ave, Des Moines) welcomes everybody to cool off during daytime services (12pm-12:45pm and 5:00-5:30). Overnight services only available to men 18 and older.///All shelters will provide water to visitors/users.