



**Illinois Department of Revenue
Gubernatorial Disaster**

January 7, 2016

Chief County Assessment Officers of Cass, Cumberland, Iroquois, Lawrence, Marion, Menard, Moultrie, Pike, Richland, Sangamon, and Vermillion

**Re: Counties Declared a Disaster Area –Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation
Date of Notice: January 5, 2016**

Governor Bruce Rauner issued a Gubernatorial Proclamation on January 5th, 2016 declaring Cass, Cumberland, Iroquois, Lawrence, Marion, Menard, Moultrie, Pike, Richland, Sangamon and Vermillion counties in the state of Illinois as disaster areas as a result of major flooding continues on the Mississippi, Ohio, Illinois, Embarras and Sangamon River in many location with some crests still expected. The high river levels have caused and continue to pose a severe risk of substantial flooding in many Illinois counties resulting in significant property damage to homes and businesses.

In the interest of aiding the citizens of Illinois and the local governments responsible for ensuring public health and safety, Governor Rauner has proclaimed that a disaster exists within the state of Illinois pursuant to the provisions of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), 20 ILCS 3305/7. Enclosed are copies of the Gubernatorial Proclamation. Additional information on disaster assistance and preparedness can be found on the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's website at state.il.us/iema

The following action is required by your office when a disaster proclamation is made (Section 13-5 of the Property Tax Code):

- The chief county assessment office must make available the Form PTAX-245, Disaster Area Application for Reassessment, for taxpayers to apply for reassessment. The form is available on the Department's website at tax.illinois.gov under the options "Property Tax," "Tax Information," and in the password-protected area "Local Official Only."
- The chief county assessment officer / board of review shall, upon application by the property owner, make a reassessment of any taxable property in the county which was substantially damaged by the disaster. In the reassessment, the value of the property shall be determined as of the date of the declaration of the county as a major disaster area. The method for proration is based on a 365 day a year of the original assessment and the reassessed value for the year of the disaster.

If you need further information or guidance, contact Cherlyn Harness of the Property Tax Division by phone at 217 782-9563 or by email at Cherlyn.Harness@illinois.gov.

PROPERTY TAX DIVISION 4-511
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
PO BOX 19033
SPRINGFIELD IL 62794-9033

Sincerely,

Constance Beard
Director

Ready Home Press Releases

Governor Rauner Adds 11 Counties to State Disaster Proclamation for Flooding

January 5, 2016

State Continues Supporting Communities Dealing with Flood Impacts

SPRINGFIELD – Governor Bruce Rauner today added 11 counties to the state disaster declaration for widespread flooding. Those counties include Cass, Cumberland, Iroquois, Lawrence, Marion, Menard, Moultrie, Pike, Richland, Sangamon and Vermillion.

Last week, Gov. Rauner declared Alexander, Calhoun, Christian, Clinton, Douglas, Jackson, Jersey, Madison, Monroe, Morgan, Randolph and St. Clair counties state disaster areas after heavy rains caused several rivers and waterways to surge to record or near-record levels. Today's announcement brings the total number of declared counties to 23.

"The impacts of this flood event have been felt in many communities across the state," said Gov. Rauner. "We're continuing to provide personnel and resources communities need as they battle flood waters and begin their recovery process."

A state disaster declaration makes a wide variety of state resources available that can help communities respond and recover from flooding. Such resources include sandbags, sand, pumps, trucks, inmate crews and other assistance to ensure public safety.

The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Springfield was activated Dec. 28 to coordinate the state's flood response and has operated since that time to coordinate deployment of state personnel and resources to help communities protect public health and safety.

As flood waters begin receding in some areas, local emergency management agencies are beginning to collect damage information from affected people and units of local government. That information will be forwarded to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), where it will be reviewed to develop a picture of the overall impact on people and local governments.

If the initial damage information shows losses that may meet thresholds for a federal disaster declaration, the state could request that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) join state and local officials for a more thorough assessment of the damage. If it appears the state meets the federal assistance criteria, the governor could request a major disaster declaration from the President.

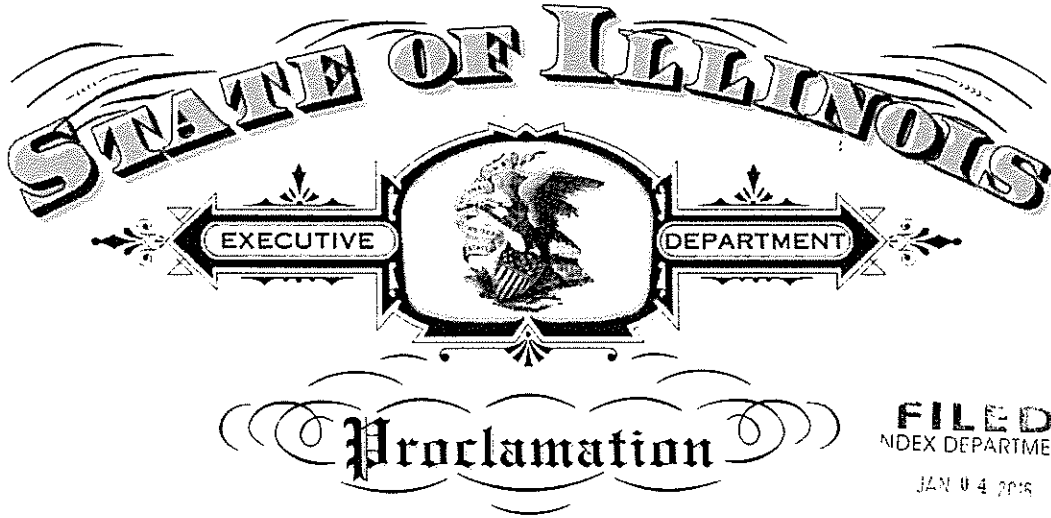
There are two separate federal assistance programs. The Individual Assistance program offers grants and low-interest loans to people affected by disasters. The Public Assistance program provides reimbursement up to 75 percent of eligible costs incurred by local governments as they dealt with the disaster and subsequent recovery.

While there is no defined damage amount for Individual Assistance, the state's past experience with requests for federal assistance shows that it takes hundreds of homes with severe damage to qualify for the program. The Public Assistance program does have a population-based threshold, which for Illinois is \$18.1 million statewide. Once the state meets the statewide threshold, individual counties would also have to meet a threshold of \$3.56 times the county's population.

IEMA Director James K. Joseph says it will take a few weeks to gather the initial damage assessment information from local emergency management officials since some impacted counties are still dealing with high waters.

"Flood waters need to recede before local officials can get an accurate accounting of the damage," said Joseph. "Our staff is working closely with all of the affected counties to help the process proceed as quickly as possible."

For updates on the current situation, visit the Ready Illinois website at www.ready.illinois.gov.



FILED
INDEX DEPARTMENT

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IN THE OFFICE OF
SECRETARY OF STATE

WHEREAS, between December 23 and 28, 2015, continuous waves of severe storms generating heavy rainfall moved through Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, moderate to major flooding continues on the Mississippi, Ohio, Illinois, Embarras and Sangamon rivers in many locations, with some crests still expected; and,

WHEREAS, the high river levels have caused and continue to pose a severe risk of substantial flooding in many Illinois counties, resulting in significant property damage to homes and businesses, power outages, and impacts to transportation; and,

WHEREAS, according to the National Weather Service, these storms have produced a range of approximately four to nine inches of precipitation in the affected counties; and,

WHEREAS, requests for aid received by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency indicate that local resources and capabilities have been exhausted and that State resources are needed to respond to and recover from the effects of the flooding; and,

WHEREAS, these conditions provide legal justification under section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Act for the issuance of a proclamation of disaster;

NOW, THEREFORE, in the interest of aiding the people of Illinois and the local governments responsible for ensuring public health and safety, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, hereby proclaim as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7, I find that a disaster exists within the State of Illinois and specifically declare Cass, Cumberland, Iroquois, Lawrence, Marion, Menard, Moultrie, Pike, Richland, Sangamon and Vermilion Counties as disaster areas.

Section 2. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is directed to continue the implementation of the State Emergency Operations Plan and the coordination of State resources to support local governments in disaster response and recovery operations.

Section 3. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 7(a)(1), I suspend any regulatory statute or order, rule, or regulation of any State agency that the Illinois Emergency Management Agency determines that, to best implement the State Emergency Operations Plan, strict compliance with the provisions of that statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action, including emergency purchases, to cope with this disaster.

Section 4. This proclamation can facilitate a request for Federal disaster assistance if a complete and comprehensive assessment of damage indicates that effective recovery is beyond the capabilities of the State and affected local governments.

Section 5. This proclamation shall be effective immediately and remain in effect for 30 days.

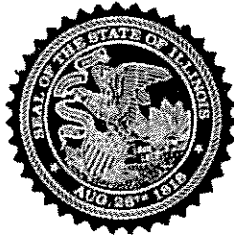
In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,

this FIFTH day of JANUARY,

in the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and SIXTEEN,

and of the State of Illinois, one hundred and NINETY-EIGHTH.



Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner
GOVERNOR