



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Midwest Floods & Tornadoes
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News Release
NEWS RELEASE

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Red Cross Assistance Spans Coast-to-Coast

American Red Cross Supports Thousands

Madison, WI, June 17, 2008 –With more than 8,600 items distributed to date, the Red Cross will continue providing materials and services at fixed sites and through 26 Emergency Response Vehicles (ERV) which are combing flood stricken communities to provide emergency services. Services and personnel are spanning from the Mississippi River to Lake Michigan throughout southern Wisconsin.

In addition to serving more than 8,000 meals and snacks, the ERVs have clean-up and comfort kits, drinking water and often a mental health professional. “Having someone to talk to who understands has given me great support and the Red Cross has been there for me,” stated Irene Mickelson, who registered along with her daughter, Hailey (8), earlier in the day. On Tuesday, ERVs will travel throughout affected areas to assist residents. These specialized “strike teams” will travel in Columbus, Iowa, Fond du Lac, Oshkosh, Portage and Winnebago counties providing valuable services.

Central distribution points for enhanced clean-up materials will continue on Tuesday. Materials available to flood victims are free and include items such as rakes, shovels, towels, masks, gloves, sun screen, bug repellent, hand sanitizer, bottled water, comfort kits and more, depending on the local need. In addition, client service stations will also be active which includes mental health services as well as client caseworkers who can help assess what type of services will be required in the coming days

Tuesday’s **Bulk Distribution & Fixed Service Sites** will be open from **9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.** at the following locations: (Subject to change in the coming days)

Richland County

Richland Center High School
23200 Hornet High Road

Milwaukee County

American Red Cross Chapter Office
2600 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee

Sauk County

Reedsburg High School
1100 Albert Avenue

Dodge County

Washington Elementary School
600 Grove Street
Beaver Dam

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Jefferson County

Fort Atkinson High School
925 Lexington Blvd.
Fort Atkinson

Portage County

Portage High School
301 Collins

Racine County

Union Grove Middle School
14th & State
Union Grove

In addition, Red Cross services can be requested by calling 866-GET-INFO. For tips and other vital information about cleaning-up flood damage, can be found in the book "*Repairing Your Flooded Home*" written by the Red Cross and FEMA. To find a free copy, log-onto www.redcrossinsewis.org.

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. You can help the victims of thousands of disasters across the country each year, disasters like the Midwest Tornadoes and Floods by making a financial gift to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to victims of disaster. The American Red Cross honors donor intent. If you wish to designate your donation to a specific disaster please do so at the time of your donation. Call 1-800-REDCROSS or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish). Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may be sent to your local American Red Cross chapter or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting www.redcross.org.

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