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Region 6 Homeland Security Board and Safeguard Iowa Partnership Announce Week 6 of “20 Weeks to Preparedness Program”

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Welcome to Week 6 of the 20 Weeks to Preparedness Program brought to you by the Region 6 Homeland Security Board and Safeguard Iowa Partnership. This program will help to better prepare you and your family, a little at a time, over a 20 week period. Each week new preparedness information will be shared in this publication including a list of items to gather or purchase for your disaster supply kit. Sign up at www.safeguardiowa.org/subscribe-to-be-prepared to receive weekly reminders and announcements related to the 20 Weeks to Preparedness program.

Use this program to gather items for your kit in small steps over a five month period. Remember to change and replace perishable items by the expiration date. Purchasing the food suggested by this program would last approximately 3-5 days.

Place in storage bin:

- ✓ Duct tape
- ✓ Toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, and hairbrush for all family members
- ✓ Unscented liquid household bleach for water purification
- ✓ Canned meat (one can for every two people)

Personalized Item (if applicable):

- ✓ Contact lens solution

To do:

- ✓ Practice alternate methods of evacuation.

Assembling and practicing at least two ways to quickly leave our home and gather outside will be essential when a disaster strikes in your community! Take the time to come up with evacuation plans and performing those plans with your family. Draw a floor plan of your home. Use a blank sheet of paper for each floor. Mark two escape routes from each room. Make sure children understand the drawings. Post a copy of the drawings at eye level in each child’s room. If your home is taller than ground level, plan to use an escape ladder from upper floors. Make sure everyone in your household is familiar with these products and is comfortable using them. Establish a place to meet in the event of an emergency. Record the locations.

The Region 6 Homeland Security Board is comprised of fourteen counties in eastern Iowa that coordinate homeland security planning, training, exercise, response, and recovery. The counties included are Benton, Black Hawk, Buchanan, Cedar, Clayton, Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque, Iowa, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Linn, and Scott. The Safeguard Iowa Partnership is a voluntary coalition of the state’s business and government leaders, who share a commitment to working together to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters in Iowa.