



KANE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**County Board recognizes OEM, Health Department for flood response**

The Kane County Board today recognized the volunteers and staffs of the Kane County Office of Emergency Management and Kane County Health Department for their hard work during the August, 2007, flood. Northern Kane County received 13.8 inches of rain over a two-day period in late August, 2007, while the normal rainfall for the entire month of August is 4.62 inches. The rains caused the Fox River to overflow its banks and inundate several neighborhoods.

For more than 10 days, affected Kane County residents, their neighbors, volunteers from our American Red Cross chapters and other community agencies, Sheriffs' deputies, municipal public works, police and fire, and Kane County OEM and Health Department volunteers and staff, along with staff from Kane County Departments of Transportation, Development, Water Resources, IT, Environment and Building Management—all logged hundreds of hours to protect the lives and property of Kane residents.

The resolution adopted on Tuesday extended the board's "particular appreciation to the staff and volunteers of the Kane County Office of Emergency Management and the Kane County Health Department for their dedication to the safety and well being of Kane County residents."

"I want to express my pride in and my gratitude for the effective response mounted in our County to the Fox River Flood of August 2007 to our Kane County staff and volunteers," Kane County Board Chairman Karen McConnaughay said. "Our collective efforts resulted in the protection of lives and the minimization of property damage."

(MORE)

“At this time the recovery effort in our community continues with the much needed federal assistance becoming available to our residents and business owners last week. We are in the process of understanding what we could have done better and plan to make a report of ‘lessons learned’ to the Public Health Committee later this month,” Health Department Executive Director Paul Kuehnert said.

Some of the activities conducted by volunteers and staff include:

- Coordination with Municipalities, Law Enforcement, Community agencies, Volunteers, County Departments
- 250 tons sand and 40,000 Sandbags distributed at 66 locations
- 200 Tetanus Injections
- 400 well-being checks
- 15 food establishment inspections/consultations
- 100 well test kits distributed
- 400 American Red Cross cleanup kits distributed
- 600 hours just from Office of Emergency Management and Health Department volunteers

Over the course of the incident, 35 persons were evacuated, 3,756 single-family homes and 362 businesses were affected, and damage to public property was estimated at \$4.1 million. Despite the severity of the damage, no fatalities or serious injuries were reported.

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