



NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
2433 N.W. 24th St., Lincoln, NE 68524-1801

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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— NEMA Update on Storm Disaster Response—

Recovery Work Continues

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

NEMA's mobile operations center and a field team are located in Beaver Crossing, assisting city and county officials with the response there. Focus continues to be on debris management.

Nebraska National Guard

Army National Guard Soldiers from the 92nd Troop Command continue on state active duty, assisting local emergency management officials in providing public safety support in the areas affected by the Sunday's storms. The mission is expected to last until Tuesday, May 20.

Seward Public Power District Will Start the Process of Restoring Power in Beaver Crossing, Saturday, May 17

Seward Public Power District (SPPD) will begin restoring electricity to Beaver Crossing Saturday. SPPD will start the process by re-building the main lines and, after a period of time, they will be ready to supply power to homes and businesses.

To prepare a house or business to receive power, a specific process, outlined in a handout which is available at the Beaver Crossing Fire Hall, must be followed, and a licensed electrician must have reported the readiness of the home or business to SPPD.

American Red Cross Works with Homeowners to Develop Recovery Plans

American Red Cross caseworkers continue to meet with homeowners in Beaver Crossing, Sutton and Cordova to meet their immediate needs and begin to create individual family recovery plans. American Red Cross volunteers are participating in the multi-agency resource center (MARC) at the Methodist Church in Beaver Crossing, working alongside partnering agencies, including the United Methodist, Nebraska VOAD and Veteran's Services, to provide a convenient one-stop center for affected families.

Two Red Cross emergency response vehicles (ERVs) are in Beaver Crossing and available to distribute water and snacks either fixed or mobile. Flashlights, rakes, and additional clean up equipment will be distributed on Friday.

Red Cross disaster workers will continue to hand out coolers of ice, snacks, waters, work gloves, trash bags, and comfort kits to Beaver Crossing residents. Since the storm passed, the Red Cross has delivered more than 3,000 meals, snacks and drinks, and handed out 114 comfort kits.

Meals

The American Red Cross and Salvation Army meal service will end later Friday. However, local groups will take over serving meals at the same location in downtown Beaver Crossing by the Fire Hall.

Volunteers

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and Gary Petersen, director of emergency management in Seward County, are requesting volunteers who want to help call the Seward County Emergency Management office at (402) 643-4722 and leave their name and number. The office will coordinate matching volunteers with the work that needs to be done in the communities.

Church of Christ Disaster Relief Truck Arrives

A Church of Christ disaster relief truck arrived in Beaver Crossing Thursday at 9 a.m. with a load of disaster relief supplies for the people in tornado ravaged area in and around Beaver Crossing, Sutton and Cordova. The semi-truck was loaded with items needed by many individuals and families: pre-packaged sets of cleaning supplies in a 5 gallon bucket, personal hygiene items, hand tools, gloves and food plus many other needed items.

The Church of Christ disaster relief effort is located on Dimery Street just east of the Beaver Crossing Fire Hall on the south side of the street. They have a large banner out front. Dimery Street is the main east-west street in Beaver Crossing.

“We distribute all these supplies at no charge to those in need,” said Mark McClean, Pastor of the Church of Christ in York. “The items are purchased by the Church of Christ from a national pool of financial donations and then shipped to disasters across the country. These items arrived here from Tennessee this morning.”

If anyone has questions they can call Mark at 360-621-6385.

Help Available for People Experiencing Stress

Twelve chaplains will be available for critical emotional care and stress management at the City Hall Building from 7 a.m. to curfew. In addition, Crisis Response International (CRI) will also be available to assist. The chaplains expect to provide this service until at least Saturday.

Prayer Vigil Scheduled

On Thursday at 7 p.m., a community-wide prayer vigil is scheduled at the City Hall.

On Sunday morning at 10 a.m., a community-wide church service will be held at the Methodist Church in Beaver Crossing.