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Published: May 26, 2009 9:39 a.m.

Verbatim: DeKalb County receives nearly \$500,000 from FEMA

Statement issued Tuesday morning by Federal Emergency Management Agency Region V:

CHICAGO – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today released \$494,235 in Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to the county of DeKalb, Ind., for the acquisition of six homes susceptible to annual flooding.

"This project will ensure the health, safety and welfare of the people who lived in these homes," said Janet M. Odeshoo, acting regional administrator, FEMA Region V. "The acquisition will help prevent future structural losses, emergency repair costs and the financial obligations of federal, state and local governments."

HMGP funds will be used to remove these homes from the 100-year floodplain, returning the area to open space in perpetuity. HMGP projects like this are the cornerstone of disaster prevention efforts, and illustrate the importance of local, state and federal government working together for the benefit of citizens.

Through HMGP, FEMA will pay 75 percent of the project costs and the county of DeKalb and Maumee River Basin Commission will contribute the remaining 25 percent. The Indiana Department of Homeland Security administers this mitigation program.

FEMA leads the nation in a risk-based, comprehensive emergency management system of preparedness, protection, response, recovery and mitigation. The agency is committed to reducing the loss of life and property and supporting a culture of readiness for all hazards, including natural disasters, acts of terrorism and other catastrophes.

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[Chesterton Tribune](#)

Town fireworks ordinance more restrictive than the state statute

With the fireworks season now in full swing, the Fire & Building Safety Division of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security is reminding citizens and retailers to comply with state statute and applicable local ordinances on the discharge of fireworks.

“Hoosiers need to remember that restrictions are in place regarding the use of fireworks as well as possible penalties for violations,” State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson said in a statement released on Friday. “We want to stress the personal responsibility of each fireworks consumer. Obey our laws, follow directions for safe use, and apply common sense.”

State Statute Provisions

*Fireworks may only be used on the user’s property; on the property of someone who has consented to the use of fireworks; or at a special discharge location.

*Fireworks may be purchased only by persons 18 years of age or older.

*Children may possess or use a firework only when an adult is present.

*Penalties for violating the fireworks law range from a Class A misdemeanor to a Class C felony, the latter in the case of the reckless or intentional use of fireworks resulting in a person’s death.

Town Code Provisions

Chesterton Town Code is far more restrictive than Indiana Code with respect to the days on which fireworks may be legally discharged. Under Town Code the discharge of fireworks is legal only on the following days and times:

*Between 5 p.m. and two hours after sunset June 29-July 3 and July 5-9.

*Between 10 a.m. and 12 a.m. July 4.

*Between 10 a.m. Dec. 31 and 1 a.m. Jan. 1.

Violations of Town Code are punishable by a citation issued by either the Police Department or Fire Department and are subject to a \$100 fine.

Consumers Beware

The Fire & Building Safety Division of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security is urging Hoosiers to check the fireworks which they purchase to ensure that the following information is listed on them:

*Class “C.”

*Consumer Fireworks.

*1.4 g.

“If you find a package that you cannot read because it is in a foreign language or says Class “B” fireworks or 1.3 g, we strongly encourage you to call the Consumer Product Safety Commission hotline at (800) 638-2772,” Greeson said.

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Carroll County Comet

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Use caution and be safe

With the fireworks season in full swing, Indiana citizens and retailers are being reminded of the state law governing the use and sale of fireworks. The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) Fire & Building Safety division urges Hoosiers to play it safe when using fireworks this summer.

In March of 2006, Governor Mitch Daniels signed a law that helps fund public safety programs around the state, such as firefighter training, through the collection of a five-percent safety fee on the sale of all fireworks. The law also includes requirements regarding where and when consumers can set off fireworks, as well as requirements for structures where fireworks are sold.

"Hoosiers need to remember that restrictions are in place regarding the use of fireworks, as well as the possible penalties for violations," said Jim Greeson, State Fire Marshal. "We want to stress the personal responsibility of each fireworks consumer. Obey our laws, follow directions for safe use and apply common sense." Fireworks law provisions:

- Fireworks may be used only on the user's property; or on the property of someone who has consented to the use of fireworks; or at a special discharge location.
- Fireworks can be purchased only by persons 18 years of age or older and children may possess or use any kind of firework only when an adult is present.
- Penalties for violating the fireworks law can range from a Class A misdemeanor up to a Class C felony in the case of the reckless or intentional use of fireworks that results in a person's death.
- On Memorial Day, the 4th of July, Labor Day and New Year's Eve, fireworks may be discharged from 9 a.m. to midnight. Any other day of the year fireworks may be discharged from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Local laws may further affect fireworks use.

The IDHS Fire & Building Safety Division recommends Hoosiers check the fireworks they purchase to ensure they contain the following information:

- Class "C" - Consumer Fireworks

- 1.4 g

"If you find a package that you cannot read because it is in a foreign language, it says Class 'B' fireworks, or 1.3 g, we strongly encourage you to call the Consumer Product Safety Commission hotline (800-638-2772)," Greeson added.

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WTHI.COM

Gun club fire ruled accidental

Updated: Wednesday, 27 May 2009, 5:16 PM EDT
Published : Wednesday, 27 May 2009, 5:12 PM EDT

- [Maranda Rodgers](#)
- Edited by Jen Steer

LINTON, Ind. (WTHI) - Indiana State Fire Marshals have ruled the cause of the fire in Linton was accidental.

According to Linton Fire Department, a golf cart battery or charger started the fire at the Triple H Gun Club.

Firefighters responded around 3:00 a.m. May 22, and remained on scene more than seven hours because there was concern over ammunition catching fire.

The building contained the Triple H Gun Club and the Grill on the Hill. Both businesses were a total loss.

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WLKY.COM

Work Begins To Restore Damaged Courthouse Dome

Crews Will Remove The Jefferson County Courthouse Dome Thursday

Construction crews are beginning the process of restoring the Jefferson County Courthouse in Madison, Indiana.

The 154-year-old building was damaged in a fire last week. Since then, the dome has been leaning to the south.

Thursday, crews will cut the dome in half and remove it, replacing it with a temporary roof.

The ATF and State Fire Marshal will inspect the dome once it's on the ground and a restoration plan will be determined. County leaders say the repairs could take a year.

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Federal flood aid applications due June 22

Journal Gazette

Indiana residents and business owners in a 16-county area affected by recent storms and flooding have until June 22 to apply for federal disaster assistance.

Area counties included in the presidential disaster declaration are Allen, DeKalb, Kosciusko, Noble, and Whitley. Other Indiana counties included in the designation are Carroll, Daviess, Fulton, Jasper, Lake, LaPorte, Lawrence, Marshall, Pulaski, St. Joseph and White.

Individuals, homeowners, renters and businesses of any size may apply for loans for losses of real and personal property by calling the Federal Emergency Management Agency's toll-free registration number at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). Speech or hearing-impaired applicants may call TTY 1-800-462-7585. Registration may also be done online at FEMA's Web site, www.fema.gov.

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Article published May 29, 2009

FEMA pays \$43K in county for flood claims

With nearly a month left for victims of March flooding to submit claims for assistance, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has paid more than \$43,000 to applicants in Allen County.

Kerry Sullivan, a spokesman for FEMA, said Thursday that the agency has paid slightly more than \$2 million to more than 1,000 applicants in Indiana based on the flooding in March.

In Allen County, FEMA has paid \$43,147 to 78 applicants. Its payments in other northeast Indiana counties include:

- ◆DeKalb: \$70,830 to 56 applicants.
- ◆Noble: \$34,445 to 28 applicants.
- ◆Kosciusko: \$116,755 to 72 applicants.
- ◆Whitley: \$77,000 to 27 applicants.

Sullivan said the money has been used for temporary housing, structural repair and replacement of destroyed belongings. He said those seeking assistance based on damage in the mid-March flooding have until June 22 to apply.

Information on applying for aid is available at www.fema.gov.

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Damage Reported As Severe Storms Move Through

NWS Receives Numerous Reports Of Funnel Clouds

POSTED: 8:45 pm EDT May 30, 2009

UPDATED: 10:44 pm EDT May 30, 2009

INDIANAPOLIS -- Severe thunderstorms dropped at least one possible tornado and prompted numerous reports of funnel clouds across portions of central Indiana Saturday evening.

Tornado warnings were issued for two storms that formed north of Indianapolis at about 8 p.m.

Track Storms: [Interactive Radar](#) | [Send/View Storm Pics](#)

Police reported a tornado on the ground near Lapel, about 13 miles west of Anderson just before 9:30 p.m., but no significant damage was reported.

Tipton County authorities said that one person was trapped in a damaged building near the Hamilton County line, but that person got out safely. Information about the extent of the damage wasn't immediately available.

Two storms prompted tornado warnings -- one in southern Hamilton and northern Marion counties and another in Tipton County. The storms moved southeast at about 35 mph and prompted additional warnings along their path.

Trees and large limbs were downed near the Mt. Comfort exit along Interstate 70, and a 70 mph wind gust was reported as storms moved through Montgomery County.

Severe thunderstorm warnings were issued for several other counties to the northwest of Indianapolis as a line of storms began forming and pushing southeast.

Additional warnings were issued south of Indianapolis as the storms headed that way.

Trained spotters reported funnel clouds and wall clouds across Boone County just after 8 p.m., which prompted the first warnings of the evening. A funnel cloud had also been reported in Clinton County, the NWS said.

Large hail reports were received from Lawrence, in Marion County, where hail up to 1.75 inches in diameter fell, along with additional large hail reports in Shelby, Fountain, Howard, Boone, Carroll, Hancock, Hendricks and White counties.

Severe thunderstorm watches were posted for central and southern Indiana through the evening hours.

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Nathan

Large hail fell in the Castleton area of Indianapolis.