

## PREPARING TO PREPARE

Contributed by Bill and Janet Liebsch, Authors of "It's a Disaster"

Many natural disasters like hurricanes, rain, thunderstorms, and melting snow, cause flooding. And flooding is more common than we think. According to FEMA, everyone lives in a flood zone - it's just a question of whether you live in a low, moderate or high risk area. To reduce the impact of a flood-related disaster, emergency management agencies may consider using **Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs)** to develop a community-based plan. In addition to providing flood zone information, maps supply research for flood assistance funds available for your area as well.

Emergency management agencies should also prepare for flood season by talking to their communities about what individuals can do before, during and after a flood. If you're not sure where to start, check out the "**Flood Recovery Booklet**" from the Iowa Conservation and Preservation Consortium.

If flood preparation or flood recovery funding is an issue, check out these grant resources:

**Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)**

**Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA)**

**Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program.**

The "IT'S A DISASTER!" Books, eBooks and CDs help individuals and first responders prepare for the unexpected. **Get more information.**

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