

A LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE 2017 FLOODING

SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

EH DIRECTOR'S CONFERENCE



Central Michigan District Health Department
Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities

REPORTING TO THE EOC.....

- CMDHD Emergency Preparedness Coordinator reported to the EOC upon request from the county emergency manager at 1:13 p.m. on 6/23/17.
- Press Conference took place, facilitated by the Isabella County Administrator/Controller (and designated Public Information Officer) at 2:19 p.m. on 6/23/17.
- CMDHD Health Officer reported to the EOC at 3:02 p.m. on 6/23/17.
- The EPC, Health Officer, and EH Director represented CMDHD in the EOC between 6/23/17 and 7/5/17.

TWO COUNTIES AT THE SAME TIME

- Isabella County fully activated their Emergency Operations Center.
- Gladwin County partially activated their Emergency Operations Center.

WATER, WATER, WATER (WELL WATER TESTING)

- Well water testing
 - Multi-Agency Resource Center was opened in Isabella County for one day. 68 water test kits were distributed.
 - 25 water test kits were distributed through the health department branch office in Isabella County.
 - Initial estimates of 55 water wells being affected (from aerial footage) on 6/24/17.
 - Sample fee waived for Isabella & Midland, then came request from Gladwin.

WATER, WATER, WATER (BEACH SAMPLING)

- Beach sampling
 - At the beginning of sampling season (3 weeks in) so we didn't have a 30 day geomean to reference.
 - Areas that were high before the flood became higher.
 - Areas that weren't high became high.

WATER, WATER, WATER (RIVER ADVISORIES)

- River advisories
 - County was looking to us for guidance on body contact with the river.
 - Three kayakers on the river on Saturday that had to be rescued.
 - First warning sign vs regular beach advisory sign for high levels of E. Coli
 - Closing a river is not routine whereas beach advisories are routine.

CAN YOU FIND THE WELL?



THERE IT IS.....



FOOD SERVICE

- Helicopter footage (aerial photos) from missing kayakers
- Made phone calls to facilities that were closest to the river – no impact; no power loss; no sewer back-up.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- More than 65 phone calls came into Environmental Health (Isabella) in the two weeks following the flood.
- More than 17 phone calls came into Environmental Health (Gladwin) in the weeks following the flood.
- CMDHD and the City of Mt. Pleasant Division of Public Works issued 3 press releases regarding the sanitary sewer overflow.
- CMDHD contributed information for 13 press releases issued by Isabella County in the days following the flood.
- CMDHD made 23 posts (or shared others' posts) on FB between 6/23/17 and 9/7/17.



Central Michigan District Health Department
"Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities"

For more information, call your local CMDHD branch office:

Arenac (989) 846-6541 / Clare (989) 539-6731 / Gladwin (989) 426-9431 /
Isabella (989) 773-5921 / Osceola (231) 832-5532 / Rosecommon (989) 366-9166

www.cmdhd.org

Public Health Flooding Information for Local Residents and Businesses

Well, Septic and Food Safety

The Central Michigan District Health Department also wants to reiterate concerns about well water. Contaminants such as bacteria and chemicals may enter the water supply if your well is flooded, damaged, or if there is a loss of pressure in your water supply piping. Ingesting contaminated water can cause stomach illness, which can be especially severe in the elderly, in children and those with weakened immune systems. If your well has been flooded or damaged, there are steps that you should follow to ensure that your drinking water is safe. In addition, throw away any food that came in contact with floodwater or sewage, or, if in a freezer or refrigerator, throw out food with an unusual color, odor, or if the temperature is above 41° F internally.

Residents are encouraged to visit our Central Michigan District Health Department website at www.cmdhd.org for guidance on well, septic, food safety, and prevention of mold following a flood. This information and area resources with regards to disposal of items from the flood can be found on our website under *Flood Preparedness*. For additional questions, please contact your local health department Environmental Health Services at 989-773-5921.

Swimming Pools and Outdoor Spas

Swimming pools and spas that have been submerged in flood waters should be inspected for damage by a person qualified and experienced with pool maintenance.

Restaurants

Please refer to the *Emergency Action Plans for Retail Establishments* from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). For additional questions, please contact your local health department Environmental Health Services at 989-773-5921.

Additional Information

Please refer to the Isabella County Central Dispatch Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCountyCentralDispatch/> or our website www.cmdhd.org.



Central Michigan District Health Department
"Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities"

For more information, call your local CMDHD branch office:

Arenac (989) 846-6541 / Clare (989) 539-6731 / Gladwin (989) 426-9431 /
Isabella (989) 773-5921 / Osceola (231) 832-5532 / Rosecommon (989) 366-9166

www.cmdhd.org

Public Health Flooding Information for Local Residents and Businesses
Gladwin County

Well, Septic and Food Safety

The Central Michigan District Health Department also wants to reiterate concerns about well water. Contaminants such as bacteria and chemicals may enter the water supply if your well is flooded, damaged, or if there is a loss of pressure in your water supply piping. Ingesting contaminated water can cause stomach illness, which can be especially severe in the elderly, in children and those with weakened immune systems. If your well has been flooded or damaged, there are steps that you should follow to ensure that your drinking water is safe. In addition, throw away any food that came in contact with floodwater or sewage, or, if in a freezer or refrigerator, throw out food with an unusual color, odor, or if the temperature is above 41° F internally.

Residents are encouraged to visit our Central Michigan District Health Department website at www.cmdhd.org for guidance on well, septic, food safety, and prevention of mold following a flood. This information and area resources with regards to disposal of items from the flood can be found on our website under *Flood Preparedness*. For additional questions, please contact your local health department Environmental Health Services at 989-426-9431.

Swimming Pools and Outdoor Spas

Swimming pools and spas that have been submerged in flood waters should be inspected for damage by a person qualified and experienced with pool maintenance.

Restaurants

Please refer to the *Emergency Action Plans for Retail Establishments* from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). For additional questions, please contact your local health department Environmental Health Services at 989-426-9431.

Additional Information

Please refer to our website at www.cmdhd.org.

AGENCY COORDINATION & COMMUNICATION (INSIDE AND OUTSIDE)

- All functions of the EOC
- State EOC and CHECC
- Internal updates to staff
- Coordinated public information plan from the beginning – all messages were released in one press release by all entities.

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN ISABELLA & MIDLAND RESPONSES

- Concerns over flood clean-up/debris management
- Mold concerns
- Multiple human service requests for assistance in many areas
- Utilization of 211

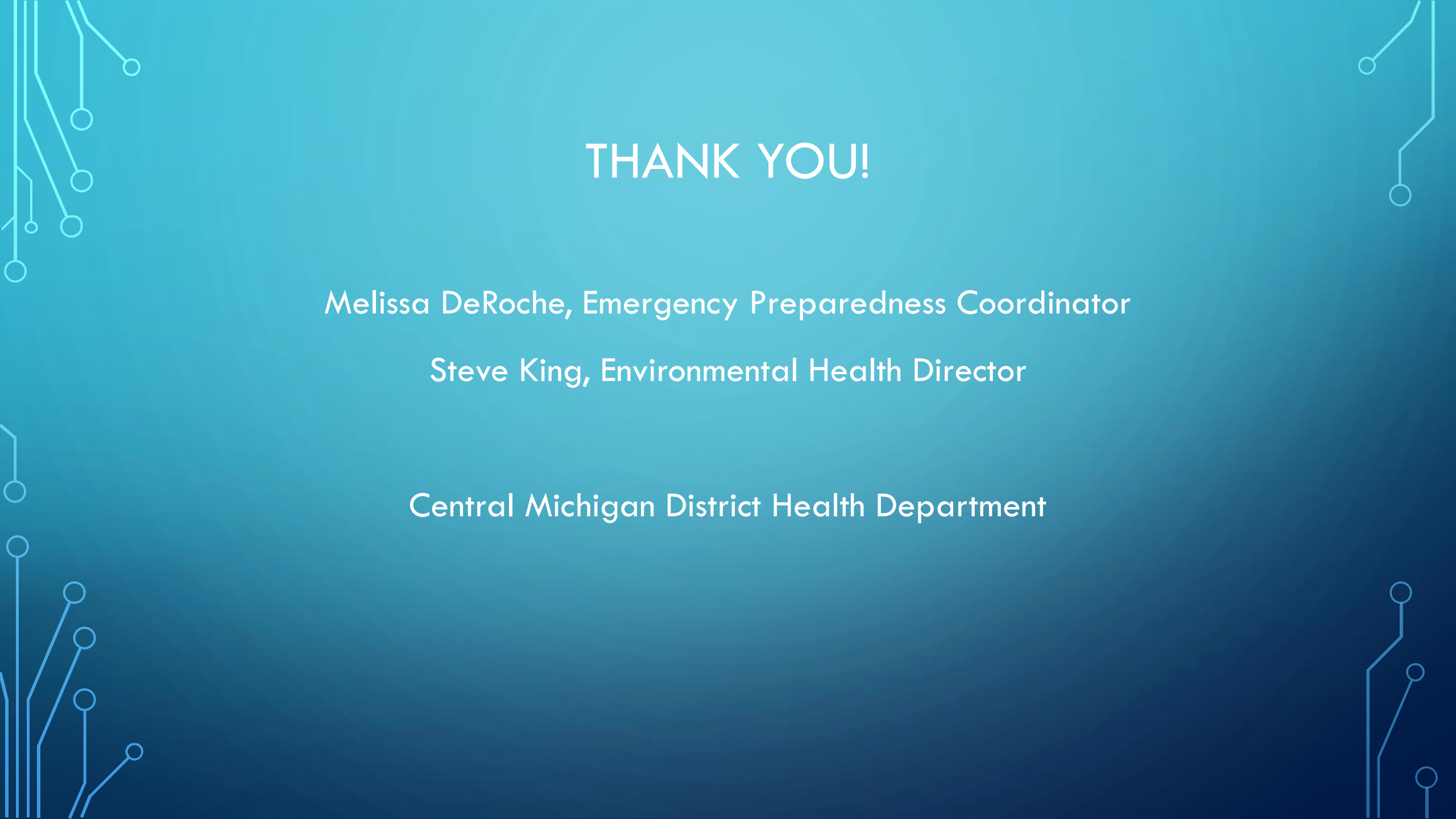
SUCCESSSES AND LESSONS LEARNED (IN PROGRESS)

Successes:

- “Three-deep” is the rule.
- Our Health Officer has an EH background.
- Our staff are trained in ICS.
- Staff trained in WebEOC/MI-CIMS.

Challenges:

- Have a plan for tracking staff time and activities (ICS 214)
- New system for notifying staff of office closure

The background is a blue gradient with decorative white circuit-like lines in the corners. These lines consist of straight segments and small circles, resembling a stylized electronic board.

THANK YOU!

Melissa DeRoche, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Steve King, Environmental Health Director

Central Michigan District Health Department