

Column Name- The Heartland Minute

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Rain, Rain, Go Away...

I hesitated with my title for this particular article. As I didn't believe "Rain, Rain, Go Away.... But please come back in a few weeks once we have dried out a bit" had a very good ring to it.

The last few weeks we have seen firsthand how destructive mother nature can be. When we discuss emergency preparedness, we always follow it by saying "we hope we never have to use our emergency plan". These last few weeks have been a good reminder of just how important an emergency preparedness plan for your home, agriculture operation, and business truly are.

Within our office the last few weeks I've received a wide range of questions concerning the aftermath of flooding. From how to clean up your home or basement, to resources for livestock producers who have lost fencing, to homeowners who are concerned with the damage to their lawn or trees.

The sad news is, unfortunately because there has been so much flooding throughout the country this year, we have some wonderful resources on dealing with flooding. Our neighbors and colleagues to the north at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln have created a wonderful flood resource that has information for homeowners, families, businesses, and agriculture producers. Those resources can be found in our office or online at <https://flood.unl.edu/>.

For agriculture producers specifically who have been affected by recent flooding, the USDA Farm Service Agency offers resources to help in the recovery process. More information can be found online at <https://agriculture.ks.gov/news-events/nebraska-flooding-disaster-recovery-resources>. The Kansas Department of Agriculture released information about the Flood Disaster Assistance Programs throughout Kansas. The two main programs being the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) and the Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP). Programs are administered by the FSA state and county committees and county offices. Producers should inquire with their local FSA county office regarding enrollment and eligibility.

If you have specific questions on cleaning up after a flood in regards to your home, business, agriculture operation, garden, or landscape. Please call the Extension office and we will be more than happy to assist you with finding the right information.

For more information regarding Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development, or K-State Research and Extension call the office at 620-583-7455, email me, Lindsay Shorter, at lindsayshorter@ksu.edu, or stop by the office which is located inside the courthouse. Be sure to follow K-State Research and Extension- Greenwood County on Facebook for the most up-to-date information on Extension education programs and the Greenwood County 4-H program.