

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
1000 AM MDT MON MAR 20 2006

...2006 NATIONAL FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK...

NOAA/S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE (NWS) IS HOSTING ITS SECOND ANNUAL FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK CAMPAIGN FROM MARCH 20-24, 2006.

TODAY/S THEME IS THE ADVANCED HYDROLOGIC PREDICTION SERVICE (AHPS). AHPS IS NOAA/S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE/S ONGOING EFFORT TO MODERNIZE HYDROLOGIC SERVICES. AHPS IS ALSO KNOWN AS WATER PREDICTIONS FOR LIFE'S DECISIONS. AHPS PROVIDES NEW FORECAST INFORMATION INCLUDING MORE ACCURATE PREDICTIONS OF THE MAGNITUDE AND LIKELIHOOD OF HYDROLOGIC EVENTS, RANGING FROM DROUGHTS TO FLOODS.

EVERYONE CAN BENEFIT FROM AHPS. BECAUSE EVERY MINUTE COUNTS... AHPS WILL HELP EMERGENCY MANAGERS BE MORE PROACTIVE TO DEFEND AGAINST A FLOOD. AHPS PROVIDES COMMUNITY LEADERS AND BUSINESS OWNERS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO MAKE BETTER LIFE-SAVING DECISIONS ABOUT EVACUATING PEOPLE OR MOVING PROPERTY BEFORE A FLOOD. THE NAVIGATION COMMUNITY WILL BE ABLE TO PLAN WITH BETTER CONFIDENCE AND OPTIMIZE BARGE AND SHIPPING OPERATIONS...SAVINGS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS EACH YEAR. RECREATIONAL USERS WILL BE ABLE TO STAY OUT OF HARM/S WAY.

AHPS PROVIDES THE PUBLIC WITH MORE DETAILED AND ACCURATE ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

- * HOW HIGH WILL THE RIVER RISE?
- * WHEN WILL THE RIVER REACH ITS PEAK?
- * WHERE WILL THE FLOODING OCCUR?
- * HOW LONG WILL THE FLOOD LAST?
- * HOW LONG WILL THE DROUGHT LAST?
- * HOW CERTAIN IS THE FORECAST?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT AHPS AND FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK IS AVAILABLE AT: [HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV/FLOODSAFETY](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/floodsafety)

NOAA/S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IS THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF WEATHER, WATER AND CLIMATE INFORMATION. THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OPERATES THE MOST ADVANCED WEATHER AND FLOOD WARNING AND FORECAST SYSTEM IN THE WORLD...HELPING TO PROTECT LIVES AND PROPERTY AND ENHANCE THE NATIONAL ECONOMY. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, PLEASE VISIT [HTTP://WWW.NWS.NOAA.GOV](http://www.nws.noaa.gov)