



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE	
CALHOUN COUNTY CHAPTER 14600 Beadle Lake Rd. Battle Creek, MI 49016	
A large, stylized graphic with the words "News Release" in a light, cursive font, and "NEWS RELEASE" in a bold, black, sans-serif font below it.	Contact: Vicki Eichstaedt Phone: 269-353-6180 x116

Red Cross Continues Community Outreach

Battle Creek, MI, June 6, 2011 – American Red Cross volunteers toured Battle Creek neighborhoods recovering from the storms on Memorial Day Weekend; checking to make sure people are on the road to recovery and know where they can go for additional assistance.

Today, June 6 a Service Delivery Center will be operating **from the Calhoun County Chapter offices at 14600 Beadle Lake Rd.** Hours will be: 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and **Tues. June 7, 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.** **Service after hours can be obtained by activating the Chapter Disaster Action Team @ 1-269-579-3018.** The Service Delivery Site will continue to offer referrals, mental health assistance, physical health screening, and provide bulk distribution of clean up items such as tarps, rakes, work gloves, mops, buckets, garbage bags etc. They will also continue to provide beverages and snacks.

The next three days are predicted to be very hot and humid. These conditions will make clean-up activities more difficult and physically taxing. The Red Cross urges all citizens to use care to avoid heat stress by taking frequent work breaks, staying hydrated, and using sunscreen. Please assist city and county road crews by following guidelines for placing debris at curbsides. Keep yard waste, building materials, and garbage separated. It is also very important to keep children away from powered equipment and piles of debris.

“We urge everyone to stay safe by following guidelines for chain saw use,” said Marybeth Wilson, Calhoun County Chapter Emergency Services Coordinator. “Please wear safety glasses and do not operate chain saws by yourself, have a work partner with you in case you need assistance.”

Since the end of March, the Red Cross has initiated 40 [relief operations in 27 states](#). In addition to the tornado response in the Midwest, the Red Cross is continuing to help residents in the South, where tornadoes and Mississippi River flooding have devastated many communities. New disaster relief operations were functional yesterday after a tornado hit Massachusetts.

The Red Cross depends on financial donations to help in times of disaster. Those who want to help people affected by disasters like tornadoes, floods and wildfires, as well as countless crises at home and around the world, can make a donation to support American Red Cross Disaster Relief. This gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for and provide shelter, food, emotional support and other assistance in response to disasters. Visit www.redcross.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS; people can also text the word “REDCROSS” to 90999 to make a \$10 donation. Contributions may also be sent to local American Red Cross chapters or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization — not a government agency — and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit www.redcross.org or join our blog at <http://blog.redcross.org>.