

NEW EMERGENCY MANGEMENT COORDINATOR

Effective this July 1 Nate Huizenga, a Sgt. at the Sioux County Sheriff's Office, will take over the duties of Emergency Management Coordinator.

Huizenga has been employed as a deputy with the Sioux County Sheriff's Office since 2001; before that he was a deputy sheriff in Emmet County, IA., beginning his career in 1998.

Huizenga has worked as a patrol deputy, investigator and NW IA. Drug Task Force Director; he was appointed Patrol Sergeant in 2005.

The Sioux County Emergency Management Commission began looking at this move in early January of this year. The decision to appoint Huizenga to the position was finalized in February. Huizenga is currently training with the present Director, Jake Anderson.

Sheriff Dan Altena is very optimistic about the move, even though it's a whole new paradigm for Sioux County. Altena said having a certified law enforcement officer, with the experience of Huizenga, as the Emergency Management Coordinator is really going to benefit Sioux County. The two are a natural fit.

Altena believes it will provide for better accountability and overall knowledge of Sioux County Emergency Management.

Working as a law enforcement officer in Sioux County since 2001 and being a native of Orange City, Huizenga already knows many of the emergency personnel, which is an important part of the position, and a real benefit.

Some of his priorities will be:

- Building strong relationships with all emergency personnel and government officials in the county
- Reviewing and strengthening Sioux County Emergency Plans
- Providing training for emergencies
- Developing a stronger awareness of Emergency Management

The sheriff's office website will have an Emergency Management page containing important information at, www.siouxcountysheriff.com.

The Emergency Management office is located at the Sioux County Public Safety Complex, 4363 Ironwood Ave, Ste. 3, Orange City, IA.

