



## Iowa Flood Center (IFC) Fact Sheet

- Established 2009 by the Iowa Legislature
- Based at the University of Iowa (UI)
- Headquartered in the Stanley Hydraulics Lab on the Iowa River
- Co-founded by the UI's Larry Weber and Witold Krajewski (pronounced **VEE-told cry-EFF-ski**) (both UI professors of civil and environmental engineering) after the 2008 flood
- Led by IFC Director Witold Krajewski
- IFC researchers work to help Iowans know and understand their flood risks and be better prepared for flooding

**Since the IFC's establishment in 2009, it's made unparalleled advances in developing tools and resources to help Iowans understand and reduce their flood risks. Among the IFC's projects:**

- Building a cost-efficient network of over 250 stream sensors to better monitor stream flow; over 100 additional stream sensors have been requested by emergency managers, city and county engineers, watershed coordinators, and state agencies
- Creating the [Iowa Flood Information System](#) (IFIS), a free, easy-to-use online tool to keep Iowans up-to-date on the latest stream levels, flood conditions, and more. Since launching to the public in May 2011, IFIS has had over 3 million pageviews
- Creating flood maps for every Iowa stream draining more than one square mile and scenario-based flood inundation maps for 26 Iowa communities (with more to come), available through IFIS
- Developing floodplain maps for the entire state that show the 5, 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, and 500-year floodplain boundaries, available through IFIS
- Leveraging IFC's technical resources to secure \$97 million for the state of Iowa through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the [Iowa Watershed Approach](#)—a statewide program working in nine watersheds to reduce flooding, improve water quality, and increase community flood resilience
- Multiplying the IFC's \$13.8 million in state funding over the last 10 years to secure nearly \$130 million in additional funding for flood-first projects that directly benefit Iowans
- Developing a real-time flood forecasting system for more than 1,000 communities
- Supporting many undergraduate students and about 40 graduate students to complete their degrees in a flood-related discipline
- Other projects to help Iowans be more flood resilient are either complete or currently underway

More information about the IFC's impacts on the state of Iowa can be found on the IFC website:

<https://uiowa.edu/stories/innovations-abound-iowa-flood-center>.

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