



---

## Generous donor gives 12,000 sandbags to Illinois



*Apr 10, 2014 By Kathryn DiGisi - Multimedia Journalist -*

DU QUOIN, Ill. - A Southern Illinois-based gaming company donated 12,000 bags of sand to be used whenever and wherever to keep the area safe and dry.

"We've done probably about 1000 bags, we're looking for somewhere between 8-12,000 bags total by the time we're done," said Inmate Impact Incarceration Center Superintendent Clem Campanella.

Campanella says his boys are funneling sand into waterproof bags to prep for flood season.

**(Continued next page)**

Normally, the bags purchased by the state are used last-minute to ensure they stay strong. "The wet, and the dryness of the sun makes the bags rot out," said Campanella.

These bags can be used anytime, anywhere, even as a precautionary measure.

Now if these bags go unused, there will be no financial loss to the state.

The state would never risk that kind of money, but a Southern Illinois gaming company would. "This really hits closer to home for Nikki's Place," said general manager Ranessa Cunningham.

Cunningham says she hopes these donated sandbags encourage other companies to pay it forward this flood season. "If you haven't been affected by the floods, then I'm sure you know somebody who has been," said Cunningham.

She wants to help stop the dangerous rising water before it even starts.