



STATE OF WISCONSIN \

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
Wisconsin Emergency Management

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DATE: Saturday, 6/14/08
12:30 AM

TO: Governor Jim Doyle
Wisconsin Congressional Delegation
State Legislators

FROM: Johnnie Smith, Administrator

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT ON STORMS #35

OVERVIEW — Friday evening Governor Jim Doyle formally requested a federal disaster declaration for six Wisconsin counties — Columbia, Crawford, Sauk, Vernon, Milwaukee and Richland. The news release announcing Governor Doyle's request is below.

Governor Doyle Requests Federal Assistance for Individuals and Business Affected by the Floods

MADISON — Governor Jim Doyle tonight formally requested a federal disaster declaration for six Wisconsin counties hit hard by recent flooding, heavy rains and tornadoes. The request is for individuals and families suffering from this week's severe weather events.

"The record-setting floods have devastated the lives of so many Wisconsin families," Governor Doyle said. "I'm confident that President Bush will provide the federal assistance to help those affected begin to recover from this disaster."

The declaration request is for Columbia, Crawford, Sauk, Vernon, Milwaukee and Richland counties. In addition to these six counties, Governor Doyle declared a state of emergency in 24 other counties in southern Wisconsin and anticipates once floodwaters recede and damage assessment are completed that he will request federal assistance for other counties as well. The Governor will also request public assistance for local governments to help recover some of their costs fighting the floods, protecting citizens and repair infrastructure.

Wisconsin's weather problems began on June 5 with dozens of severe thunderstorms and tornado watches and warnings being issued by the National Weather Service. Numerous counties were struck by heavy rainfall, hail, damaging winds and reported tornadoes. Severe weather continued throughout the week with record rainfall levels and flooding.

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Weather

National Weather Service forecast is for “Light Rain” over the next 48 hrs. Expect the weather to dry up after that.

Road Closures/Road Conditions

Interstate Highways: DOT has announced the following changes affecting the Interstate highways. Travelers are urged to follow official detours and not find their own routes due to many locations where roads are affected by flooding. There are reports of traffic back-ups in many locations due to the normal volume of weekend travelers now having to drive on these detoured routes.

New information:

- **I-90/94 eastbound is now OPEN between WIS 82 and US 12 at Lake Delton.** Eastbound I-90/94 traffic will be diverted to US 12 to go toward Madison.
- **I-94 westbound from Milwaukee is now being closed at WIS 83 at Delafield.** The NEW DETOUR is south on WIS 83 to I-43 to I-39/90 at Beloit. The previous detour has been changed because of flooding concerns on County B.
- **I-39/90/94 northbound/westbound traffic at Madison wanting to go north and west** on I-90/94 are being asked to use US 12/18 west (Beltline) in Madison to US 12.
- **I-39/90/94 northbound/westbound traffic at Madison wanting to go northeast,** are being asked to use US 151 north.
- **NOTE: These changes will cause heavier traffic volumes both ways on the Beltline (US 12/18) in Madison.**

The following interstates remain **closed**:

- **I-39 southbound from Wis 82 to the I-39/90/94 split**
- **I-39 northbound is open beginning at US 51 in Portage**
- **I-90/94 westbound from US 151 to US 12 by Lake Delton**

Motorists traveling between the Twin Cities and Chicago should use I-94 to WIS 29 to I-43 to I-94. **Motorists wanting to travel to the Northwoods from Chicago** should use I-94 to I-43 to WIS 29 to I-39.

Motorists are strongly advised to NOT travel in the south central part of Wisconsin due to many flooded state and local highways.

WisDOT, WI National Guard and WI State Patrol are coordinating on sandbagging and pumping operations in the I-39/Cascade Mountain Road area.

State Highways

- Marquette County has closed WIS 22 at the Montello River Dam (Krakow Park Crossing) due to water levels. This is the road on the south side of Montello coming north into town.
- US 12 south of Baraboo is now **OPEN**.

Lafayette County: Lafayette County officials report that ALL roads over the Pecatonica River in Lafayette County are closed.

Commercial motor vehicles: Because of flooded roadways throughout large areas of southern Wisconsin, DOT is temporarily suspending all commercial motor vehicle oversize and overweight operation south of WIS 29 except for vehicles moving to provide relief supplies, assist in flood abatement, or respond for emergency services. This suspension is in effect immediately and will continue until Tuesday, June 17, 2008, at 12:01 a.m.

The Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation web site (<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/incident-alerts.htm>) has up-to-date maps and information on road closures for Interstate and major state highways; or call 1-800-ROADWIS (762-3947).

DAM CONDITIONS:

The Dept. of Natural Resources is currently monitoring dams in southern Wisconsin. Only 4 dams have failed so far, however many others have been damaged. There are 385 large dams in the counties affected by this week's severe weather and many other smaller dams.

- The Pardeville dam is once again overtopping and passing flow through the temporary spillway over Wis 22. Water has been rising approximately 1 inch per hour and should crest later tonight.
- The Waterford dam in the Village of Waterford is experiencing problems with seepage and high water levels. Dam safety staff have worked with the county on an emergency action plan should conditions deteriorate. The dam will be monitored throughout the night.

Information for private water well owners

The Department of Health and Family Services and the Department of Natural Resources recommend that people do not drink water from wells that were submerged or affected by flood waters. After flood waters subside and the well has been flushed and shock treated, fee-exempt well testing is available to confirm that the water is bacteriologically safe. Private well owners should contact their local public health department for test kits.

The DNR has also received questions from well owners whose wells have water flowing out of the vents or beneath the well cap. DNR officials say the cause of flowing wells is the increased precipitation going back to last August, and in particular this past week. A flowing well is not an indicator that the water has become contaminated, but only indicates that the water pressure underground has increased. In most cases, the flow should stop within a few weeks after the heavy rainfall stops, but in the meantime, it is important that the water be directed away from the well. If a well continues to flow after a few months, then well owners should contact a licensed well driller or pump installer and have an overflow device installed on the well, he said.

Dept. of Natural Resources:

DNR has educational information for citizens affected by flooding on their web site at http://dnr.wi.gov/emergency/current_flood.html

Severe weather last evening forced the closing of three state parks and two state trails. The parks closed currently are Devil's Lake State Park in Sauk County, Rocky Arbor State Park in Juneau and Sauk counties, and Wildcat Mountain State Park in Vernon County. The Department of Natural Resources has also closed two state trails: the Elroy-Sparta State Trail and the 400 State Trail between Elroy and Reedsburg. Other trails in the southern part of the state are open but due to wet conditions visitors are encouraged to use caution. The Department of Natural Resources will post updated condition reports on its Web site: www.wiparks.net.

DNR wardens are assisting with flood issues in Iowa and Sauk counties.

WI National Guard:

10,000 filled sandbags being moved from Volk Field to Hwy 33 site.

The National Guard is picking up 90,000 sandbags in La Crescent, MN, for delivery to Columbia, Racine and Waukesha counties. National Guard personnel will continue repairing the access road at the Hidden Valley Dam in Vernon County on Saturday. Approximately 12 personnel are still in Avoca assisting local authorities with traffic control.

State Patrol:

State Patrol is deploying traffic control strike teams to Gays Mills for the next 2 days.

There are 18 State Patrol units in Fond du Lac County assisting with responding to calls and crashes outside the city of Fond du Lac and also handling traffic control points within the city of Fond du Lac.

Dept. of Corrections:

DOC received requests for, and will deploy, 19 strike teams on Saturday to 9 sites (144 inmates). They have requests for 8 strike teams on Sunday and 6 on Monday.

On Friday DOC deployed 40 strike teams (233 inmates) today for sandbagging and debris removal in Steuben, Soldiers Grove, Lone Rock, Avoca, Gays Mills, Wyocena, Jefferson, Montello, Baraboo, Columbus, Waupun, Pardeeville, Jefferson, Monona, Brooklyn, Montello, Berlin and Racine.

Green County:

Green County Emergency Management asks all Green County residents who have had flood damage to call their office at 328-9416 and report their damage.

Kenosha County:

Residents of Kenosha County who have sustained flood or storm damage are asked to call the Kenosha County Emergency Management Damage Hotline at 262-605-7926 to report the amount of damage they have.

Red Cross:

Five truckloads of clean-up kits will be delivered to Madison Saturday morning for distribution to flood damaged areas Saturday afternoon.

The National Guard has a shelter open in the Spring Green Middle School. A request was received from Lone Rock Fire Department for 20 cots and blankets. They are concerned about the rising

waters in Spring Green and along the river that could cause a need to evacuate part of Lone Rock. Lone Rock was advised that the Red Cross would deliver 20 cots and blankets to the Spring Green Shelter. Also, the Red Cross will send a Shelter manager and nurse.

61 people were served today at Red Cross shelters. Shelters are open in: Muscodia (Community Center); Reedsburg (Pine View Elementary); Soldiers Grove (North Crawford H.S.); Columbus (Zion Luther School); LaFarge (High School); Milwaukee (Tommy Thompson Center); Ft Atkinson (St Joseph Catholic Church); Fond du Lac; Waupan; Oshkosh (Oshkosh Convention Center); Janesville, Baraboo (Sauk Co. Courthouse).

Standby shelters are on standby at: Viroqua (High School), Ontario (Library), Kendall (Community Center), Montello (Montello High School), Caledonia.

Emergency response vehicles are positioned in Reedsburg and Gays Mills with clean up kits, water and comfort kits.

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