



INCIDENT REPORT

Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center

Department of Military Affairs | 2400 Wright Street | Madison, WI 53707

Incident Report #10 – August Wisconsin Flooding

August 31, 2018

Contact: State Emergency Operations Center

Phone: 608-888-5328

As the Labor Day weekend gets underway, several communities in southern and western Wisconsin continue to deal with flooding. Rain and potentially severe storms in the forecast for this weekend could result in additional flooding. Flash flood watches are in effect for several counties in east central and northwestern Wisconsin.

Water levels on the Baraboo, Kickapoo, and Fox rivers remain above flood stage, with flooding reported along the Kickapoo River at Gays Mills, La Farge, Steuben, Viola, and Readstown, and along the Baraboo River at Reedsburg, La Valle, Rock Springs, and Baraboo. While the Kickapoo River has crested and started to drop, the Baraboo River may crest Saturday. Water levels are rising on the Fox River at Princeton, which is expected to pass flood stage in the coming days. Montello and surrounding areas in Marquette County are also experiencing flooding.

As many people head out for the holiday weekend, they are urged to check 511wi.gov for current road closure information. If drivers encounter a closed route or standing water on a roadway, turn around and find another route. Do not drive around barricades or on flooded roads.

Governor Scott Walker has declared a statewide State of Emergency, which directs state agencies to assist local governments and allows the Wisconsin National Guard to be called to active duty by the adjutant general if requested. The governor on Friday viewed flood damage and met with residents in Sauk County.

While the focus remains on protecting the safety of the public and preventing further damage to private property and public infrastructure, some areas have started to collect damage information. Preliminary estimates show at least \$44 million in damage to public infrastructure has been reported so far, although that number is expected to grow as more communities begin to assess damage in the days ahead.

Private property owners should continue to report flood and storm damage by calling 2-1-1 or 877-947-2211. Make sure to document losses and speak with an insurance agent. Multiple resources designed to help residents with their recovery efforts are being posted online at <http://readywisconsin.wi.gov/flooding/AUG2018.asp>

The State Emergency Operations Center is currently elevated. The state is monitoring the situation and providing assistance to local emergency responders as requested.