



INCIDENT REPORT

Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center

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

Incident Report #1 – March 2019 Flooding

March 15, 2019 – 6 p.m.

Contact: State Emergency Operations Center

Phone: 608-888-5328

SUMMARY

Warm temperatures have caused a rapid snow melt which in turn has caused minor flooding throughout the state. Ice jams have been reported on several rivers which is exacerbating urban flooding. Some areas are experiencing more significant flooding including parts of the Fox River Valley. The flooding has caused power and gas outages in several communities and prompted multiple small evacuations. The Red Cross has opened shelters to assist displaced residents. Temperatures are supposed to cool over the next few days which will slow the melt and allow the water to disperse. No major precipitation is forecast.

Gov. Tony Evers declared a state of emergency for the State of Wisconsin March 15. The State Emergency Operations Center has elevated to Level 3 to monitor and respond to the flooding situation.

INJURIES/FATALITIES

None reported

EVACUATIONS

East Central Region

Brown County- currently assessing the number of homes evacuated

City of Fond du Lac - 200 people

Northeast Region

Village of Plover- 30 homes

Southwest Region

Columbia County- 60 homes

Village of Deforest- 6 homes

West Central Region

Town of Centerville- 10 homes

SHELTERS

East Central Region

Fond du Lac County, Community Church - 56 people

Fond du Lac County, Harbor Haven Health & Rehabilitation - 15 people

Brown County, Preble High School - Reception Center - 31 people

ROADS

Calumet County:

WIS 57/32 is closed in both directions at the North Branch Manitowoc Bridge due to flooding.

Buffalo County:

WIS 37 is closed both directions from County Rd NN to WIS 88 due to flooding

Columbia County:

WIS 188 is closed in both directions between Harmon Rd and County V in Lodi
WIS 44 is closed in both directions between Crown Rd. and Barden Rd. in Pardeeville
WIS 113 is closed at CTH J
WIS 60 is closed at Riddle Road

Crawford County:

WIS 171 is closed in both directions between WIS 27 and WIS 131 in Gays Mills

Dane County:

WIS 69 is closed in both directions between PB and US 151 in Verona
WIS 19 at CTH KP is closed in both directions due to flooding

Dodge County:

WIS 28 is closed in both directions between WIS 175 and I-41 in Theresa
WIS 60 is closed in both directions from extended closure boundaries between WIS 73 & County TT

Fond du Lac County:

WIS 23 is closed, between Main Street and Pioneer Road, due to flooding
WIS 26 NB near Hollander Dr., Water over the NB lane, roadway is open
WIS 26 closed in both directions between Gateway Drive and Spring Street in Waupun

Green Lake County:

WIS 44 is closed in both directions from CTH I to CTH S near Markesan

Lafayette County:

WIS 23 is closed in both directions at the Pecatonica River in Darlington
WIS 78 is closed in both directions at CTH H in Blanchardville
WIS 11 is closed in both directions from WIS 78 to WIS 78
WIS 78 is closed in both directions from WIS 11 to CTH M

Portage County:

WIS 54 NB/SB closed between CTH B and Maple Drive

Richland County:

WIS 130 from US 14 to CTH JJ
WIS 131 North closed between Viola and La Farge because of flooding on roadway
WIS 56 is closed in both directions at the Village of Viola

Rock County:

US 51 from Swift Street to W. Rollin Street

Sauk County:

WIS 154 is closed in both directions between WIS 136 and WIS 23 in Rock Springs
WIS 136 is closed northbound from Rock Springs to WIS 33

Vernon County:

WIS 82 is closed in both directions between US 131 and Slayback Rd.

STATE DECLARATION

Gov. Tony Evers issued Executive Order #16 March 15, 2019

LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

East Central

Kewaunee County March 15th, 2019

Manitowoc County March 15th, 2019

Northeast

Portage County March 14th, 2019

Southwest

Adams County March 14th, 2019

Adams County-Town of Lincoln March 14th, 2019

Adams County- Town of Richfield March 14th, 2019

Village of Pardeeville March 15th, 2019

Columbia County March 14th, 2019

City of Columbus March 15th, 2019

City of Lodi March 14th, 2019

UNMET NEEDS

Adams County has requested 100 additional Type 3 barricades. They are working with Wisconsin Department of Transportation to obtain barricades.

Portage County is requesting a 6" pump for the Village of Plover. Pump will be delivered this evening.

Buffalo County is in the process of picking up 50,000 sandbags from Volk Field.

COUNTY/TRIBAL STATUS REPORTS

East Central

Brown County: Experiencing countywide flooding including Allouez, Wrightstown, and Green Bay. Ledgeview Fire Department conducted a water rescue at 1:00 A.M.

Calumet County: Quite a few county roads have water over-topping them. Highway Department is out clearing culverts of obstruction and placing road signage as necessary.

Dodge County: Multiple town roads and four county roads have been reported with high water or as closed.

Fond du Lac County: Areas adjacent to the Fond du Lac River have been evacuated. Two shelters were opened. City is not asking for any further assistance at this time. County Emergency Management personnel are in the Emergency Operations Center and Command Post.

Kewaunee County: Numerous roads are under water. These roads have water running over them making some inaccessible, are completely closed, or are experiencing washouts.

Manitowoc County: Ice jam has not yet reached the dam with officials continuing to monitor. Incident Command is scaling back, but is creating a plan to rapidly re-mobilize if necessary. Three residences in the immediate area of flooding have refused to evacuate at this time.

Outagamie County: Sand and sandbags were provided to the following municipalities: Village of Hortonville, Town of Ellington, Town of Grand Chute (sand only), City of Kaukauna (bags only), Town of Vandenbroek. The Shiocton-Bovina Fire Department will be filling sandbags at 6:00 P.M. and is soliciting help from all available volunteers. CERT volunteers assisted with filling sandbags in the Village of Hortonville and Town of Ellington. Emergency Management staff identified Team Rubicon and local fire department personnel as potential resources for filling sandbags if the need for manpower overwhelms CERT capabilities. The Town of Oneida will have sandbags available to its residents. Emergency Management staff has also coordinated social media posts to advise residents of available resources. 2-1-1 has been activated to coordinate with the American Red Cross and provide delivery of cleanup kits to residents if needed. 2-1-1 is also available to take damage reports from residents.

Waupaca County: Closed roads including Radley Road E1265 (East of STH 22) to E1364 (West of CTH K). Road is impassable due to deep standing water in low lying area.

Waushara County: Handing out sandbags to residents Waushara as needed. Officials will continue to assess roads covered by water.

Winnebago County: Yesterday and overnight, there were a few reports of homes with water in the basement as well areas with water over the road. As of this morning, most of the roads have reopened and we have not had any new reports of homes being impacted.

Northeast

Marinette County: There is widespread road ponding from rain and snow melt. Some are urban streets are flooded due to blocked storm drains. Marinette County Emergency Management has issued sandbags to the Village of Coleman, Town of Wagner, and City of Niagara.

Oconto County: Minor isolated flooding in some residential areas and some town roads with flooding and minor damage

Portage County: Portage is still experiencing high/rising water. Plover has had some evacuations and have closed off-ramps to minimize traffic into the village. Currently working on reaching out to the municipalities to coordinate damage information.

Wood County: At this time most of the flooding/water issues are in the Grand Rapids and Saratoga areas. There have been a few requests for sandbags in the City of Wisconsin Rapids and the City of Marshfield.

Southeast

Kenosha County: Kenosha County has minor street flooding in the Town of Wheatland and Village of Salem Lakes. No residents have reported any unusual flooding for this time of the year.

Ozaukee County: River Forecast Center is predicting minor flooding for the Cedarburg area along Cedar Creek as well and in Mequon in the area of Pioneer Rd and the Milwaukee River. Locally high water is expected along CTH W north of STH 33 in Saukville.

Racine County: The Root River at Racine is still rising and is at the action stage. The Fox River at Burlington is still rising and is closing in on the moderate flood stage. Burlington officials indicate that they are not sandbagging. Based on historical localized flooding, this seems to be normal for this time.

Walworth County: The Town of Bloomfield has one town road closed due to high standing water.

Waukesha County: County Public Works is still monitoring roadways very closely and pumping in some areas. The only road closures this morning were Barker Rd and River Rd in the City of Brookfield and Grush Rd in the Town of Ottawa. The Fox River in Waukesha did rise to minor flood stage yesterday afternoon surpassing 6', but is expected to crest later today at 6' 3". No impacts to structures have been reported or are expected. Reports from the Eagle Springs Lake Management District indicate high levels of water from the Jericho Creek feeding the lake. The water levels in the lake are being managed with the dam at the Kroll Outlet which is currently at 50% capacity.

Southwest

Adams County: Continuous rainfall for the past two days and significant snowmelt has caused extensive flooding throughout the entire Adams County. Most county highways have either water over the roads and/or are closed.

Extensive calls from residents/businesses requesting sandbags and reporting water in basements and first levels and damage to homes from force of water rushing in. Several requests from residents for pumps/assistance in removing water.

Sandbags and sand can be obtained from: Adams County Highway Department, 1342 CTH F, Adams; Adams County Solid Waste Department, 1420 STH 21, Friendship; Town of Rome, 1156 Alpine Drive, Nekoosa.

Three families have been displaced due to water levels in homes. Families are staying at friends/relatives. American Red Cross has been notified and is on standby to set up a reception center or shelter.

Columbia County: City of Lodi Municipal Building is still running off generator at this time. Alternate phone number still in use. They have been working with Madison Gas and Electric restoring power on case by case basis and gas will be restored once power is back up. City of Lodi has been putting out alerts to the community, the last alert was encouraging residents to contact Madison Gas and Electric directly to have their power restored. Wycocena Dam is at a Level II activation stage. No current issues at this time, but they are having an engineer come out to inspect it for any issues.

The Columbus Community Center at 161 North Ludington Street remains open as a shelter for those displaced. A pet shelter has also been established at the City Pavilion at 1049 Park Avenue. Columbia County Highway Department advised that there are over 100 different areas of roadways with water moving across the roadways. They are still working on trying to get signage at all locations.

Dane County: Yesterday's mid-afternoon rains added to an already wet situation caused by rapid snowmelt. Several local and county highways are closed due to water over roadways. In some areas, water is up to bottom of bridges with local and county Department of Public Works is monitoring. Village of DeForest has six residences voluntarily evacuated to the DeForest Senior Center with Red Cross on location providing assistance. One home in Town of Oregon was evacuated with the utilities turned off due to water up to floor joist in basement.

Grant County: Road closures are reported throughout the county.

Green County: Road closures were reported throughout the county. A water rescue was conducted near Schneeberger Road.

Green County Highway has 300 sandbags filled and will have 1,000 more done by the end of the day. Emergency Management has ordered 50 clean up kits from Red Cross.

Iowa County: Road closures: Town of Arena, Blynn, Sawle, Morrill, Helena and Pine - Town of Brigham, Clayhill Rd. Lands' End is picking up sandbags for a water issue at one of their buildings. One home in rural Mineral Point has reported water in the basement damaging the furnace and water heater.

Lafayette County: Numerous road closures have been reported throughout the county.

Richland County: Several roads throughout the County have been impacted. STH 80 north of Richland Center is closed due to high water along with 7+ county or town roads. One person has been displaced and they are being assisted by the local Salvation Army unit.

Sauk County: All affected areas evacuated in Prairie du Sac.

The Village of Prairie Du Sac; the areas located near 13th & Grand (near the Sauk Prairie High School) have been inundated with runoff water from the warm weather melting the snowpack. The roadways in the area have been closed by emergency personnel and are deemed unsafe. Emergency personnel are requesting everyone to remain clear of the area. Police and Firefighters have been going door to door in the area of the flooding to notify the residents and assure they are aware of the dangers associated with the event. No mandatory evacuation is occurring at this time. Emergency personnel along with the Street Department have set up large pumps in an effort to lower the water levels and return the area for normal traffic. Sand bags are available at the Prairie Du Sac Public works garage located at 1700 North Street. More information will follow. Departments assisting in the event are the Prairie Du Sac Fire Department, Sauk City Fire Department, Baraboo Fire Department, Sauk County Emergency Management, Sauk Prairie Police Department, Sauk County Sheriff's Department and the Baraboo Police Department.

Vernon County: Water has receded in Ontario and is working its way downstream. STH 82 and STH 131 in La Farge is now closed as well as water of the road on WIS 131 between Viola and La Farge near Ski Hill Road. STH 162 in Chaseburg is still closed, but will be checking on that in the next hour or two. Other roads are slowly starting to open up.

Tribes

Menominee Nation: Waste water treatment plant in Keshena was over capacity during the night and has backed up into the treatment plant offices. Damage to the facility is being assessed at this time. Waste Water treatment plant in Middle Village is at capacity and may overflow later today. Staff are on site and monitoring the situation. STH 55 has several areas of standing water but the road remains open to traffic. County Highway Department is working on the issue. Many homes in the communities are having water problems in their basements. Wolf River in Keshena is continuing to rise. The river came up another 6" overnight.

West Central

Buffalo County: Several county and local roads have been closed beginning today due to frozen culverts and localized flooding across the roadways. The County will be hosting an Incident Action Plan development meeting.

Chippewa County: Two road closures at this time due to water over road causing roadway erosion.

Clark County: Water over roadway in several locations. Crews working to clear ditches and culverts to alleviate flows. Several schools starting late this morning due to weather conditions, including fog.

Dunn County: Water over roads in several areas of county. Reports of water in basements.

Eau Claire County: Several roads are closing throughout the County due to washouts Many homes and businesses have flooding City of Eau Claire is reporting one sewer backup. Crews are tracking costs and damage assessment at this time.

Jackson County: Only two reports of basement flooding have been received by the Jackson County Emergency Management office at this time. US 12 near Allen Creek is closed due to high water. A press release will be sent out later today asking residents to call 2-1-1 to report damage.

La Crosse County: Numerous town and village roads closed overnight. Some homes evacuated in the Village of Holmen. Red Cross is assisting and will open shelters as needed. Regional emergency managers are considering using the 2-1-1 system to collect data regarding the location and severity of damages to homes and businesses. La Crosse.

Monroe County: Monroe County has strategically placed sand bags and sand in Sparta, Tomah, and Wilton. Each site has had a minimum of 5,000 sand bags available to residents. Shovels were supplied at the site by the Monroe County Highway Department. Residents will be responsible for filling, transportation of the filled bags, placement of bags, and eventual disposal. This information was posted on Facebook. The municipalities were offered sand bags upon request, but to date no municipality has requested them. Sandbags location: Sparta at the animal shelter on STH 16; Tomah at the Highway Department on Winnebago Avenue.

Pepin County: Village of Pepin requested information to purchase sandbags for their residents; the village doesn't have storm drains which is causing issues with standing water and flooding throughout the community. The Village's Fire Department is using a pumping truck with a filter to drain some areas.

Taylor County: No road closures at this time. Late afternoon report from Taylor Highway Department on March 14th, 2019 said three basements experienced some basement flooding.

Trempealeau County: Snow melt has put all creeks, streams over their banks. Melt and rising water has resulted in the closure of several town and county roads. Single lane closures are present on STH 93 and STH 95. Water running over the road in locations too numerous to count. Water caused the collapse of one home in the Town of Arcadia. No injuries. Water over topping the levee in the Todd Road subdivision is imminent and threatens 22 homes with levels that may exceed the flash flood of July 2017. Two truckloads of sand have been used in that subdivision alone. Approximately 30,000 sandbags have been

distributed to most municipalities county-wide. Red Cross has a shelter open in the City of Arcadia for a second night. No one stayed at the shelter the first night.

STATE AGENCY RESPONSE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION: No further flooding issues (besides Fond du Lac Humane Society request for shelter variance, which has been completed) have been reported to DATCP. As of 10:15 A.M. March 15th, 2019.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES: DNR has deployed 2 boats with 2 wardens staffing each boat to Manitowoc Emergency Operations Center. DNR is monitoring the situation at four dams.

WISCONSIN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Sandbags were provided to:

Iron County - 12,500
Dodge County - 6000
Adams - 12,500
Trempealeau - 25,000
Brown - 30,000
Sheboygan - 12,500

WISCONSIN STATE PATROL: Northeast region: Three troopers assisted the City of Fond du Lac overnight with road closures until barricades could be placed. Currently, one trooper is assisting the Village of Allouez with re-opening CTH GV to alleviate traffic congestion.
Northcentral region:

Eight troopers/inspectors are in Plover for the morning commute for the flooding near STH 54. One sergeant is also present at the local command post.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The National Weather Service expects dry, cooler temperatures for the next few days which will help with the flooding. Daytime temperatures will be in the 30s with overnight lows in the teens. The next system will be the middle of next week.

Flood Warnings still remain in effect for several rivers including the Crawfish, Pecatonica, Baraboo, Milwaukee, Fox, Sugar, Sheboygan and Kickapoo Rivers. The Pecatonica River at Martintown is expected to crest to 21.3 feet Saturday morning which would be a new record high crest. The Fox River at New Munster is expected to crest tonight around 14 feet. Pecatonica River at Martintown will crest tonight at 21.3 feet which will be the highest crest on record. The Sugar River at Brodhead will remain in major flood stage until Sunday. The Sheboygan River at Sheboygan is currently at 13 feet due to ice jams.