



INCIDENT REPORT

Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center

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

Incident Report #4 – March 2019 Flooding

March 18, 2019 – 5 p.m.

Contact: State Emergency Operations Center

Phone: 608-888-5328

SUMMARY

The National Weather Service indicates temperatures will remain cooler for the next few days and warming towards the end of the week which will increase the melt conditions. No major precipitation is forecast. Two local shelters have remained open for affected residents. Many roads are closed throughout the state; however, suitable alternative routes are available in impacted areas. Please visit 511wi.gov for current road closures. Due to improving conditions, the State Emergency Operations Center will revert to Level 4 after today's operational period. The Wisconsin Emergency Management Duty Officer will continue to monitor.

INJURIES/FATALITIES

None reported

EVACUATIONS

East Central Region

Brown County - Approximately 80-100 people evacuated. As the water recedes, the community is working on a re-entry plan for residents which includes building inspection.

Southwest Region

Columbia County - Town of Columbus, one apartment complex with approximately 15 - 20 residents evacuated and 175 homes were checked with 40 residents evacuated.

West Central Region

Trempealeau County - Town of Dodge, approximately 12 homes evacuated.

Southeast Region

Ozaukee County - Waubeka (unincorporated), approximately 50 people displaced from homes.

SHELTERS

East Central Region

Fond du Lac County, Community Church - 17 people expected to stay through mid-week

Brown County, Preble High School – 17 people

ROAD UPDATE

Many roads are closed throughout the state; however, suitable alternate routes, monitored by law enforcement, are available in impacted areas.

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 60 is closed at Riddle Road

Crawford County:

WIS 131 southbound lane closed at Wauzeka with barricades

Dane County:

WIS 69 Verona between County Highway PB and US 151 northbound and southbound
WIS 19 at County Highway KP eastbound and westbound

Dodge County:

WIS 28 Theresa at WIS 175 eastbound and westbound
WIS 60 Columbus Between WIS 73 and County Highway TT eastbound and westbound

STATE DECLARATION

Gov. Tony Evers issued Executive Order #16 March 15, 2019 due to flooding caused by rapid snowmelt and rain

LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

East Central

Brown County March 15, 2019
Brown County-City of Green Bay March 15, 2019
Brown County-Town of Ledgeview March 15, 2019
Brown County-Village of Bellevue March 14, 2019
Brown County-Village of Suamico March 15, 2019
Kewaunee County March 15, 2019
Manitowoc County March 15, 2019

Northeast

Portage County March 14, 2019
Portage County-City of Park Ridge March 14, 2019

Southeast

Ozaukee County March 16, 2019
Ozaukee and Washington County-Village of Newberg March, 16th 2019

Southwest

Adams County March 14, 2019
Adams County-Town of Lincoln March 14, 2019
Adams County- Town of Richfield March 14, 2019
Columbia County March 14, 2019
Columbia County-Village of Pardeeville March 15, 2019
Columbia County-City of Columbus March 15, 2019
Columbia County-City of Lodi March 14, 2019

Sauk County – Prairie du Sac March 18, 2019

UNMET NEEDS

None.

COUNTY/TRIBAL STATUS REPORTS

East Central

Dodge County:

The water has started receding. Dodge County Highway 28 from Highway 175 to 41 will remain closed. The bridge on Highway 60 in Town of Elba/City of Columbus remains closed until inspected by the DOT. County Highway MM may need to be closed today. Other town roads may still be closed, but are being monitored by the townships. Citizens of the City of Columbus/Town of Elba that were evacuated are still being assisted by the City of Columbus, who will coordinate when they are allowed to return. Campbells Street residents were asked to coordinate/contact Columbus Water & Light on Monday for restoration of power, the city also has the information for WE Energies to pass on to the residents as the gas was also cut to that area. Besides the Town of Elba residents that were evacuated there is no flood damage being reported from residents.

Kewaunee County:

Two roads remained closed due to flood damages. They are: CTH P (between CTH X and Bluebird Road) and County Line Road (between WIS 54 and Church Road). The Highway Department is currently compiling a list of locations where we had flood damage from March 14th, 2019 through March 18th, 2019.

Manitowoc County:

The Department of Natural Resources engineer has indicated the Kiel Dam is safe at this time. However, a private structure in the spillway must be removed. The City of Kiel is working with the owner to remove the structure.

Updates from the Shoto Dam continue to indicate near normal "summer" water levels at the dam which are down significant since Friday. However, ice breakups are occurring upstream and are being closely monitored by fire department and dam officials for possible ice jams.

Waushara County:

All county roads are now open except for CTH V which will be closed for a while. We also have a town road closed in the Town of Hancock 2nd Ave (both North and South of CTH C).

Southeast

Jefferson County:

Rock River Road in the Town of Ixonia is closed due to water across road. Rock River at City of Jefferson is at Moderate Stage with water is slowly receding. City of Jefferson reports no negative impacts. All other check points currently at Minor Stage. Jefferson County under a Flood Warning from March 18, 19 07:39 A.M. until further notice.

Ozaukee County:

Water has begun to recede in most areas and has dropped to the moderate (Waubeka) or minor (everywhere else) flood stage; according to the gauges.

Pioneer Rd (CTH C) has been reopened by the highway department following shoulder repair.

The Red Cross remains active in Waubeka and will continue flood kit handouts, meals and other operations. They have begun damage assessments, however it has been slow-going with the water levels just beginning to return to normal.

The bridge on Cigrand Drive (Hwy H) in Waubeka remains closed, pending an inspection. It is believed that the bridge lifted and moved when the ice struck it.

3,000 sandbags were distributed to the Town of Grafton for their residents this morning. It is unknown how many were taken and filled today.

The County will continue to monitor the situation as the water recedes and additional damage information becomes available. There remains the opportunity for another ice dam to form along the Milwaukee River in the coming days. Some areas that we have seen still have 8+ inches of ice floating along.

West Central

Pepin County:

A water main break was reported on Main Street between 2nd St E and 3rd St E (downtown Durand), public has been asked to avoid the area. The water main has been repaired, but barricades remain on the street.

Trempealeau County:

Continued county-wide snow melt causing issues. Sandbagging and water pumping efforts were largely ineffective. By the end of the day (Friday), those levels had started to recede in all but a few locations. Several roads were closed and then reopened. A few remain closed and many roads have single lane closures.

Water continuing to rise on the Trempealeau River at Dodge is resulting in the evacuation of some of the residents there. Individuals are being taken to the Town of Dodge hall until a larger shelter can be established. Red Cross is involved. Homes are being evacuated Saturday morning in the community of Dodge as waters rise from the Trempealeau River.

Snow melt caused a rise in the water levels in the City of Blair, inundating the park at Lake Henry and negatively impacting five residential buildings. Fire department personnel notified all residents of the potential for risk to public safety. No one chose to leave their homes.

The Trempealeau County Sheriff's Office said that homes evacuated were in the area of Bambenek Street and the Sportsmans Club. The sheriff's office spokesperson said it wasn't immediately clear how many homes or people were affected by the evacuation. The National Weather Service said Saturday morning a possible ice jam downriver was causing the flooding. Water levels, they said, could break a record crest of 12.75 feet set in 2010. The Trempealeau River at Dodge is expected to crest between 13 and 13.5 feet

STATE AGENCY RESPONSE

WI Department of Natural Resources:

The DNR has deployed a high capacity dewatering device to the Village of Plover.

WI Emergency Management:

WEM is collecting damage assessment data concurrent to response activities. Drone images and videos from the flooding can be found here: <https://arcg.is/1iSXzD>.

WI State Patrol:

Follow 511wi.gov for the most up-to-date road closures of state highways.

VOLUNTEER AGENCY (VOAD) RESPONSE

2-1-1 Wisconsin: 211 Wisconsin is collecting damage reports and referring callers to available disaster resources on behalf of the following counties: Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Marathon, Portage, Adams, Jackson, Trempealeau, Monroe, Vernon, Buffalo, and La Crosse.

As of 4:00PM 211 had received 257 calls relating to the flooding. Additional data can be seen here: <https://visionlink-org.domo.com/link/BVp3BvgYHra5z3vI>

Red Cross: The Red Cross is continuing bulk distribution of clean up kits to the impacted. They are currently managing two open shelters in Brown and Fond du Lac counties.

The Red Cross opened a reception center at located at the Waubeka Fire Hall (W4114 River St., Waubeka, WI 53021) at 1000 and will remain open until 1800 today; the reception center will remain in operation through Tuesday, 3/19. They will provide clean up kits, water, meals, and snacks.

The Red Cross has identified three sites for fixed site bulk distribution of clean up kits and each is open today from 1030 - 1630:

- Oshkosh Red Cross Office Warehouse - 515 S Washburn St. #201, Oshkosh WI 54901
- Green Bay Red Cross Office Warehouse - 121 Bader St., Green Bay, WI 54302 (across the street from the blood center)
- Allouez Village Hall - 1900 Libal St., Allouez, WI 54301

Weather Update:

Mainly dry weather is expected for the next week. There is a chance for light showers on Wednesday with little accumulation. The next chance for rain is early next week. Lows tonight will be upper teens in northern Wisconsin to upper 20s southern Wisconsin. High temperatures on Tuesday will be middle 40s north to around 50 south. Winds will be 15 mph or less through Tuesday. Highs will be in the 40s statewide Wednesday and Thursday and lower 50s Friday and Saturday. Lows this week will generally be middle 20s north and lower 30s south.

What Has Changed:

An ice jam south of Dodge, WI caused the Trempealeau River at Dodge to climb above their record flood set back on September 25, 2010. This ice jam could potentially last for at least the next 24 hours, if not longer.

Ice jams continue along the Sheboygan River near Sheboygan and the Milwaukee River in Ozaukee County and northern Milwaukee County. The gauge at Waubeka shows Major flood stage, with Saukville and Cedarburg at Moderate. Rapid fluctuations are possible over the next couple of days.

Flood Category Updates:

Major flooding continues for the Trempealeau River at Dodge.

Moderate flooding continues over parts of the Kickapoo, Fox (North), Wolf, Manitowoc, Pecatonica, Sheboygan, and Milwaukee rivers.

Minor flooding continues along parts of the La Crosse, Black, Baraboo, Rock, Fox, and Sugar rivers.