



STATE OF WISCONSIN \

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
Wisconsin Emergency Management

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DATE: August 22, 2007
10:30 A.M.

TO: Governor Jim Doyle
Wisconsin Congressional Delegation
State Legislators

FROM: Johnnie Smith
Administrator

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT ON FLOODING #16

OVERVIEW

Overnight, storms with rain and high wind again swept through southwest Wisconsin, downing power lines and trees and damaging some homes and other buildings. The National Weather Services anticipates another 1-3" of rain possible for the area through Thursday.

The State Emergency Operations Center is operational from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Wisconsin Emergency Management has regional directors stationed in Vernon, LaCrosse, and Crawford Counties. The state continues to coordinate with local and county officials.

REPORTS FROM COUNTIES

Following is the current status of the five counties (La Crosse, Sauk, Richland, Vernon and Crawford Counties) operating under a state of emergency. The amount of damage is expected to increase.

Residential Damage

731 Homes Damaged
30 Homes Destroyed
\$13.1 Million Estimated Total Residential Damages

Damage to Businesses

32 Businesses Damaged
25 Businesses Destroyed
\$4.8 Million Estimated Total Damage to Businesses

Public Sector Damages

\$13.7 Million Road Damage
\$25,000 Damage to Public Buildings
\$2.2 Million Utility Damage

State and Local Government Costs

\$5.1 Million for Clearing Debris

\$434,000 for Protective Measures

Agricultural Damages

\$60,000 Livestock Costs

8,500 acres impacted

\$1.2 Million in Crop Damage

Road Closures – The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) reports these major road closures – the following closures have marked detours:

- WIS 50 from WIS 83 to WIS 75 is closed in Kenosha County (closure at Fox River). Road remains open to local traffic only.
- WIS 35 from US 14/61 to Stoddard in Lacrosse and Vernon counties.
- WIS 60 from US 61 to WIS 80 in Crawford and Richland counties.
- WIS 80 from Rockbridge to Hillsboro in Richland and Vernon counties.
- Please note there are many other local road closures currently in affect. Check WisDOT's website at <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/flood.htm> for updated information.

Lacrosse County – The La Crosse County Emergency Operations Center is activated as local officials are responding to flood damage in the Town of Shelby. Town of Shelby has requested assistance from the Salvation Army or Red Cross for a mobile feeding unit for 14 families. The Lacrosse County Health Department is providing tetanus vaccinations for those assisting with debris removal. In addition, local pastors and counselors are providing counseling.

Crawford County – Received 1” of rain overnight, but in spite of the additional rain, water is receding.

Richland County – Received about ½ “ of rain last night, however, strong winds caused downed trees and power lines throughout the area. Power was out for 1 ½ hours in Richland Center but has been restored. Power remains out in pockets in the county.

Vernon County – Vernon County reported strong winds of up to 60 mph overnight. It damaged the roof of a home, farm silo and other farm buildings. 12 trailer homes had their skirting ripped away and are currently being evaluated for damage. The families have found shelter with family and friends. De Soto reported 1 ½” of rain overnight and experienced some flooding.

Racine County – Racine County Emergency Management has established a voice mail and e-mail hotline for residents affected by the recent flooding or damage due to rain. They should call (262) 636 – 3308 or email RCEmergencyManagement@goracine.org. Residents should leave their name, address, phone#, city, town or village and a brief description of the damage along with an estimated dollar amount.

REPORTS FROM STATE AGENCIES & VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Department of Corrections – 24 inmates are working under the direction of Corrections staff at various dam locations in Vernon County. 12 inmates are working in the town of Franklin in Vernon County to assist in removing debris following last night's storm.

Wisconsin National Guard - Two five-person teams from the Air National Guard's 115th Civil Engineering Squadron are currently clearing debris from four dams in Vernon County to remove blocked spillways. A UH-60 Black Hawk crew from the 1st Battalion, 147th Aviation inserted one team to clear debris from the West Fork Kickapoo #4 dam yesterday. The Army National Guard's 107th Maintenance Company delivered pallets of water to residents of Gays Mills and Soldier's Grove. The 229th Engineer Company conducted a damage assessment of State Highway 35 yesterday and made repairs to other roadways. The 229th Engineer Company is currently at the Army National Guard armory in Viroqua planning road damage assessment and debris removal missions. Approximately 80 Wisconsin National Guard personnel are supporting flood response operations.

Wisconsin State Patrol – The State Patrol has 13 troopers in the Gays Mills area and provided 5 additional troopers to Vernon County.

Red Cross – Kenosha, Crawford and Richland County shelters are still open.

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection – Is currently providing updated information regarding food safety and consumer protection on their website.

DHFS/Public Health – Additional tetanus vaccine and private well water test kits are begin sent to Crawford and Vernon Counties. Richland County has also requested and will receive well test kits for residents needing to test private wells impacted by the flooding.

DHFS/Human Services – Is in the process of providing an electronic version of a brochure entitled "Recovering from the Emotional Aftermath of a Disaster" to the county human services departments for counties impacted by the recent storms the resulted in extensive damage and flooding.

Department of Natural Resources – Wardens and response teams have been dispatched to Richland County and Vernon County. More than 40 DNR staff are assisting with the response: staff coordinating with Dept. of Corrections and National Guard on dam clean up; working with officials from Shelby Township on waste and debris disposal; working with Dept. of Ag, Trade & Consumer Protection on livestock carcass disposal; DNR warden staff are cycling through local areas to provide assistance; drinking water staff are working with local health departments on drinking water issues.

FEMA – Will be in area on Tuesday assessing damage. Residents are urged to take photos of damage, keep receipts and contact their insurance companies prior to Tuesday.

Catholic Charities – The group is organizing a relief effort for people in the flooded areas of La Crosse, Vernon, Crawford and Richland Counties. Monetary donations should be sent to:

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse
Flood Relief
P.O. Box 266
La Crosse WI 54602-0266

Salvation Army
Divisional Headquarters
11315 W. Watertown Plank Road
P.O. Box 26019
Wauwatosa, WI 53226 – 0019
(414) 302-4300
(Indicate Wisconsin Flood Relief)

American Red Cross – make checks out to local chapter

American Red Cross
Scenic Bluffs Chapter
2927 Losey Blvd. South
La Crosse, WI 54601

American Red Cross
Badger Chapter
4860 Sheboygan Ave.
Madison, WI 53705