



# INCIDENT REPORT

## Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center

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

For more information contact:

Lori Getter  
Office (608) 242-3239  
Cell (608) 516-0293

**DATE: July 20, 2017 6:00 pm**

### **Weather**

A line of thunderstorms moved through parts of the region during the later afternoon and evening of July 19. The storm produced damaging wind gusts over parts of southeast Minnesota and northeast Iowa into southwest Wisconsin. Later in the evening, storms redeveloped further north in western Wisconsin. These storms repeatedly hit the same areas just east of the Mississippi River into the Wisconsin River valley. Many towns were flooded out by 6-8 inches of rain, and many rivers rose or will rise to major flood stage.

A flash flood watch is in effect for western and southern WI for Friday through Saturday morning. Heavy rain and thunderstorms will impact western and southern Wisconsin late Friday afternoon through early Saturday morning. Severe thunderstorms, with damaging winds and a few tornadoes, are possible. Rainfall amounts of 1-3 inches are expected, with higher amounts of 4-5 inches in localized areas. Minor flooding is occurring on the Kickapoo and Baraboo Rivers. Moderate to Major river flooding is expected with the additional rainfall.

### **Flooding Response & Recovery**

Approximately 11 individuals from Arcadia and about 75 from Galesville were evacuated this morning. There are four shelters that are currently open:

#### **Trempealeau County**

Holy Family Catholic Church  
532 McKinley Street  
Arcadia, Wis., 54612

Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau High School  
17511 North Main Street  
Galesville, Wis., 54630  
Number of occupants not known

#### **La Crosse County –**

Southern Bluff Elementary School  
4010 Sunny Drive  
La Crosse, Wis., 54601

#### **Monroe County –**

Barney Center  
1000 East Montgomery Street  
Sparta, Wis., 54656

### **Damage Assessments**

**Buffalo County:** High water and mudslides have made numerous roads impassable in the southern half of the county. There was a mudslide reported on Highway 95 near Fountain City. County officials are announcing road closure information and warnings via social media.

**Crawford County:** Strong winds caused power outages and some damage. The areas most affected include the city and town of Prairie du Chien and the town of Bridgeport. Multiple hangars were damaged or destroyed in the storm. Sandbagging began in Steuben due to the projected rise in the level of the Kickapoo River.

**Grant County:** Straight line winds caused damage and downed power lines. The second round of storms caused flash flooding in the county's northeastern areas, including Castle Rock, Blue River and Clifton.

**La Crosse County:** Numerous flash-flooding incidents have been reported throughout the county. Most of the flooding is in the southern third of the county, but also significant residential and street flooding in Onalaska and Holmen. Wind damage to trees and power lines have been reported. There was flooding at the WAFER Food Pantry and at the Mayo Clinic Health System-Franciscan Healthcare.

**Monroe County:** At approximately 9:00 a.m. an emergency operations center was established at the Monroe County Justice Center in Sparta, WI due to flooding and subsequent damage in the area. Voluntary evacuations for some areas are in place and some township roads are still closed. At this time all state highways that were initially closed have been opened and are passable. EOC is open and planned to be staffed for approximately 72 hours. Initial damage assessments are underway.

**Richland County:** The county Emergency Operations Center will be partially activated based on current high water levels and forecast of additional rain.

**Rock County:** There are reports of power outages and fallen trees and tree limbs. A couple of homes have been struck by fallen trees.

**Trempealeau County:** Arcadia, Blair, Ettrick and Galesville were affected by last night's flooding. Arcadia opened an emergency operations center and evacuee reception center at approximately 2 a.m. today. Approximately 11 people have been displaced and 20 homes and some businesses were impacted in Arcadia. A basement collapse has been reported but not confirmed. Homes in Blair were also affected.

**Vernon County:** Reports of minor localized flooding, with trees and power lines down. High water on several roadways has begun to recede, but the Kickapoo River remains a concern with the potential for more rain. Sidie Hollow and Esofea campgrounds were evacuated as a precaution.

## **Southeast WI Recovery Efforts**

### **Racine County**

Samaritan's Purse has begun assisting residents with cleanup. As of last night, they had 97 work orders in Burlington. They plan to assist in Kenosha and Walworth counties.

### **Kenosha County**

Damage assessments continue.

### **Walworth County**

The Red Cross plans to open a Multi-Agency Resource Center tomorrow at the Walworth County Health and Human Services building in Elkhorn on Friday from noon to 7:00 pm.

### **Other Information**

Members of Governor Walker's cabinet met with local government officials and emergency managers from Kenosha, Racine and Walworth Counties today. Representatives from the Department of Administration (DOA), Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP), Department of Health Services (DHS), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI), Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM), and Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) discussed possible disaster recovery resources and listened to concern and answered questions.

State agency press releases are available on ReadyWisconsin at <http://readywisconsin.wi.gov>

Current News Releases available at <http://readywisconsin.wi.gov>

Join us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/ReadyWisconsin>  
Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/ReadyWisconsin>  
and Instagram ([www.instagram.com/readywisconsin](http://www.instagram.com/readywisconsin)).