

Iroquois County EMA

Press Release

26th February 2018 at 21:30

For immediate release: Flood Update

Water continues to recede in Iroquois County. Iroquois River has dropped to minor flood stage. There are still numerous road closures in Iroquois County. Reminder: do not drive through flooded roads. Turn around, don't drown.

8 homes in Milford, 24 homes in Woodland, and approximately 200 homes in Watseka have been affected by flooding. Approximately 20 to 50 homes in rural parts of Iroquois County have been affected.

The American Red Cross shelter at Trinity Church is open, and currently has 42 occupants. The animal shelter at Jefferson Plaza is open, and currently has 26 pets.

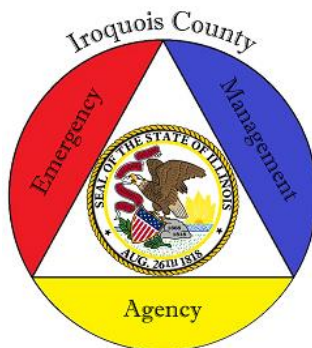
Iroquois County declared a county-wide disaster on Wednesday at 15:30. The City of Watseka declared a disaster as of 18:00 on Thursday, and has established a 9 PM to 4 AM curfew. The State of Illinois declared a disaster for Iroquois, Kankakee, and Vermilion counties Friday. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is open, coordinating with all local responders, county agencies, NGOs, and the State to respond and recover from this disaster. Residents whom have received flood damage to their homes are encouraged to report that to the EOC at (815) 432-6997. Residents along Iroquois River in northern Iroquois County are encouraged to send flooding reports to the EOC, and evacuate if necessary. If you need to be evacuated, call 911.

As families return to their homes, they will need to contact their insurance companies, qualified inspectors/contractors, and/or their landlords.

- Landlords are responsible for their property, including its maintenance and repair.
- Ameren and Nicor will not reconnect services until the homeowner has a qualified electrician and/or plumber inspect their home and provide a receipt.
- If you have insurance, call your insurance agent!
- Be wary of mold in homes. Further information on mold in homes can be found at the ICPHD website at <http://www.co.iroquois.il.us/health-department/environmental-health/emergency-preparedness/>.
- Beware of predatory contractors.
- Pets are susceptible to mold. Make sure your home is ready for your pet.

Those looking to donate can give to their charity of choice or the Iroquois County Long-Term Recovery Committee. The Long-Term Recover Committee is accepting donations at the First Trust & Savings Bank at PO Box 160, 120 E. Walnut Street in Watseka. For material donations, contact WIQI radio (815) 432-1097.

Lutheran Church Ministries is assembling to perform muck-out operations in Iroquois County on 3rd March. To request assistance, contact Iroquois County EOC at (815) 432-6997.



"Be prepared. Respond without hesitation. Help recover."