

Minnesota Department of Transportation
Travel Advisory

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To be released: Immediately

2nd MnDOT update on Mankato area flooded state highways

Mankato, Minn. – (3:30 p.m.) The Minnesota Department of Transportation continues to advise travelers to drive with caution in the Mankato area due to recent flooding.

With additional rains forecasted, officials warn that roads may be closed or restricted without warning as flash flooding and mud slides are difficult to predict. They also advise motorists to watch for cones and barrels on the roadways as they indicate potential hazards where damage occurred during the recent flooding.

MnDOT crews are continuing their efforts to clear mud and debris and make repairs to wash out areas. The slide on the southbound lanes of Highway 169 north of Mankato should be cleared by early evening and workers are going to try to open Highway 66 by nightfall.

Highways that remain CLOSED include:

- Highway 66 south of Mankato (from Blue Earth County Road 90 to County Road 9)
- *Highway 66 may open by nightfall tonight*

Highways with RESTRICTIONS include:

- Highway 169 southbound from Mankato to St. Peter restricted to one lane for crews to work in the area of the mudslide
- *Highway 169 lane restriction should be cleared by early evening*

Highways with RESTRICTIONS REMOVED

- Highway 14 westbound at Eagle Lake
- *Highway 14 lane restriction was removed at 12:30 p.m. today*

Every flood is dangerous. If you must travel, follow these safe driving practices:

- Check www.511mn.org before traveling for information on road conditions, closures and detour routes.
- Expect the unexpected – flash floods can occur anytime, anywhere.
- Do not drive around barricades or into flooded areas.
- If floodwaters rise around your car, abandon the car and move to higher ground, if you can do so safely.

Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control and possible stalling. A foot of water will float many vehicles. Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles including sport utility vehicles and pick-ups.

When a road is closed it is illegal to travel in that area. Motorists can be fined up to \$1,000 and/or 90 days in jail. In addition, if travelers need to be rescued from a closed road, other expenses and penalties will apply.

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