



**Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Division of Homeland Security and
Emergency Management**



2014-MN-006: High Precipitation Storms - June 2014

Recovery Phase: Situation Report

Subject: Recovery Phase Situation Report #17

Reporting Period: 07/23/2014 12:00 - 07/24/2014 11:59

Current Situation

Background

Minnesota has seen significant precipitation fall throughout portions the state. Beginning June 11, a high precipitation weather system crossed the state causing localized flooding due to stream, river and lake rises coupled with saturated soils. Koochiching and Rock counties began reporting flooding, but experienced little infrastructure damage early in the period.

Governor Mark Dayton issued Governor's Executive Order 14-11, "Declaring a State of Peacetime Emergency in the State of Minnesota" declaring a state of emergency in 35 Minnesota counties.

On July 9, 2014, Governor Dayton submitted a request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration to the White House.

On July 21, 2014, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency announced that federal disaster aid has been made available to the State of Minnesota to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area affected by severe storms, straight-line winds, flooding, landslides, and mudslides during the period of June 11 to July 11, 2014. This is disaster DR-4182.

Current Situation

As of today, flood warnings continue in the area of International Falls due to high water on Rainy Lake and surrounding areas. This area was impacted by the current incident. Another flood warning is active for areas of MN near Grand Forks due to heavy rains received earlier this week. This flood warning does not impact the current incident. Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) will conclude this week and are being conducted in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

SEOC Recovery - Preliminary Damage Assessment Teams *Agency Summary*

- The Preliminary Damage Assessments will be concluded today. Additional counties will be submitted to FEMA for declaration consideration next week. FEMA staff will begin arriving this week to support the Minnesota recovery mission. FEMA is committed to obligating reimbursement funding in an expeditious manner.
- HSEM has identified a trend regarding resource challenges in the recovery phase of this disaster. Culverts, gravel, and road construction contractors are becoming hard to find with the magnitude of this event and the normal construction season demands. ***Any jurisdiction who is experiencing an inability to locate resources should contact the Minnesota Duty Officer (651-649-5451/800-422-0798).*** Please see the Operations Section Chief report for information about the process that will be followed.
- PDA Schedule
 - Thursday, July 24 - Roseau, Koochiching, Todd -- Final Day of PDAs

Operations Section Chief

Agency Summary

- The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) remains at Activation Level III: Partial Activation. The incident has transitioned from Response to Recovery operations. The incident officially began on June 11th, 2014.
- HSEM Operations staff are monitoring and supporting recovery activities.
- **Process for Recovery Resource Requests**
 - The MN Duty Officer will take calls from *County Emergency Managers (or their designee)* requesting resources for recovery efforts (651-649-5451 / 800-422-0798).
 - The request will be routed to the SEOC where a corresponding DisasterLAN call ticket can be entered, tracked and actions can be documented.
 - Coordination with the Public/Private Coordination and Action Team (P2CAT), or other appropriate entity, will be handled by SEOC Logistics.
 - Requesters can track request progress by using the DisasterLAN Ticket Manager and searching for the corresponding DLAN call ticket.
- The Operations Section continues maintaining situational awareness for SEOC partners and those involved in the recovery process.

MN Housing Finance Agency

Agency Summary

- The Minnesota Housing and Finance Agency (MHFA - www.mnhousing.gov) sponsors a Home Rehabilitation/Emergency and Accessibility Loan program which may assist local low income homeowners make vital repairs to the homes that they occupy. The loans are administered by local Community Action Program (CAP) agencies. Interested homeowners should call their CAP agencies right away if they are interested in being considered for a loan, as available funds are running out quickly. Copies of MN Housing and Finance Agency and MN Department of Revenue factsheets are attached for information.

MN Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster (MNVOAD) - Liaisons in SEOC

Agency Summary

- Voluntary Agency Updates
 - NECHAMA, Jewish Response to Disaster – The team has returned to the Twin Cities. They may return to the city of Hewitt, near Wadena for additional clean-up at a later time.
 - Catholic United Relief – Assisted with tools/equipment in the Wadena area. They are willing to return to impacted areas when homeowners are ready.
 - United Way 211 – two new calls in this period.
 - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) – Assisting with Wadena clean-up.
 - The Salvation Army – They are assisting two new clients with flood needs in southern MN. They are also willing to assist with any follow-up visits to finish clean up in Wadena.
 - American Red Cross – The Northern Region continues to assist with feeding and hydration of volunteers from other agencies in support of clean-up efforts in Wadena.

- Next Call: Friday, July 25, 2014, 1:00 PM.

SEOC Operations Section

Weather

Five Day Forecast: Minnesota - Koochiching (KDLH)

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
				
Slight Chance of Thunderstorms	Chance of Thunderstorms	Chance of Thunderstorms	Chance of Rain Showers	Clear
78 F / 25 C 59 F / 15 C	79 F / 26 C 57 F / 13 C	81 F / 27 C 55 F / 12 C	71 F / 21 C 52 F / 11 C	73 F / 22 C 53 F / 11 C

Please monitor NOAA All-Hazards Weather Radio and National Weather Service information sources.



400 Sibley Street | Suite 300 | Saint Paul, MN 55101-1998 | 651.296.7608
800.657.3769 | fax: 651.296.8139 | tty: 651.297.2361 | www.mnhousing.gov
Equal Opportunity Housing and Equal Opportunity Employment

2014 Flood Recovery Activities Status

Rental Housing Vacancies in the affected areas: Renters who have been displaced by the flooding can find information on affordable rental housing vacancies nearby at www.housinglink.org.

Financial Assistance for damaged homes: Once the presidential declaration of disaster area is made financial assistance will be offered under conditions similar to when there is an SBA declaration and specific disaster recovery appropriations.

- A home improvement loan, amortizing with an interest rate of 3% will be available to any flood victims whose home has been damaged and the costs of repair are not covered by insurance. The maximum loan amount is \$50,000.
- If the flood victim does not qualify for new debt or the amount they qualify for is not enough to cover all of the costs, a deferred, forgivable loan will be available. The maximum amount of this loan is \$20,000. The loan is forgiven after 10 years of living in the repaired home.
- No income limits will apply for either type of assistance.
- We will work with organizations that are able to make both types of loans to conduct outreach and process the loans so that flood victims will not have to go to multiple lenders.
- The interest rate on a home improvement loan will be subsidized to bring it down from 5.99% to 3%.

Estimates of Needed Funding: We have approximately \$1.8 million in a Disaster Relief Contingency Fund that can be made available for presidentially declared disaster areas. These funds will be used to subsidize the interest rate and to fund the forgivable loan. (Repayments of loans made in previous disaster recovery efforts are deposited into the contingency fund.) The information we have suggests that most of the homes fall into the affected category. Based on this information we believe that the current balance in the Disaster Relief Contingency Fund will be sufficient.

As properties dry out, homeowners may discover more extensive damage than originally estimated.

Success Story: A five foot section of the foundation wall of the home of low-income, disabled homeowner in LeSueur collapsed on June 21st due to the rains and flash flooding and another large portion of the foundation wall is weakened and threatening collapse. The collapsed wall contained the gas meter, so the city shut off the gas to the home. Minnesota Housing approved an emergency loan of \$15,000 which will be forgiven after 15 years. The loan amount is sufficient to cover the costs of repairing the foundation walls.

**News Release**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 21, 2014

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Local governments affected by recent flooding can ask for early aid payments from the state

ST. PAUL, Minn. – Local governments located in Minnesota counties can request their state aid payments early due to financial hardships caused by the recent severe weather and flooding, the Minnesota Department of Revenue announced today. As of today, nine counties have been officially recognized as disaster areas by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and include: Chippewa, Freeborn, Jackson, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Renville, and Rock. Cities and townships within those counties are also eligible for early payment. Other counties, and the cities and townships within them that were affected by the disaster, may be eligible for early payment as FEMA continues to evaluate the damage around the state.

“Much of Minnesota has felt the effects of the severe storms and flooding this summer,” noted Revenue Commissioner Myron Frans. “Getting these scheduled aid payments into the hands of local governments months in advance can go a long way in helping them recover and rebuild.”

Normally, payments for Local Government Aid (LGA) for cities and townships, and County Program Aid for counties, are made in two installments, once in July and once in December. Minnesota law allows the state to make the December payment earlier than scheduled if a local government is determined to be in a “financial hardship” due to a natural disaster.

Based on the recent FEMA declaration, the Minnesota Department of Revenue is in the process of notifying the affected local governments of this option and will make early payments when requested by a local government.

Early payments of state aid have been made in previous natural disasters, most recently during the severe flooding in northeastern Minnesota during the summer of 2013.

Follow the latest news and updates from the Minnesota Department of Revenue on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 10, 2014

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**Update: More taxpayers affected by severe weather and flooding
get extra time to file and pay their taxes**

Governor Dayton extends state of emergency to include 16 more counties

ST. PAUL, Minn. – Taxpayers in Minnesota who were affected by the severe weather and flooding will get help if the recent storms prevented them from filing their returns or paying their taxes on time, the Minnesota Department of Revenue announced today.

On Wednesday, Governor Dayton extended the state of emergency to include 16 more counties; bringing the total number of counties listed in the emergency order to 51. The state of emergency remains in effect until July 22, 2014. The department will forgive penalties and interest for taxpayers located in affected areas who have Minnesota tax returns or payments due between June 11 and July 22, 2014.

This only applies to Minnesota taxes. This does not apply to any federal taxes.

If you are in the affected area and receive a tax bill, please contact us at 651-556-3003 or 1-800-657-3909.

For other questions call the Minnesota Department of Revenue Disaster Relief Hotline at 651-556-3016 or toll free (outside the metro only) 1-800-657-3606.

To view Governor Dayton's original emergency order and see a list of affected counties, click [here](#).

Follow the latest news and updates from the Minnesota Department of Revenue on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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STREP ATTACHMENT: MDTA and MN Revenue Fact Sheet - 2/16/14.pdf

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