

KANABEC COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

July 18, 2018

FLOOD RECOVERY INFORMATION

SANDBAG DISPOSAL:

We are encouraging people to leave sandbags in place throughout the week as there is rain in the forecast. If you have sandbags ready for disposal, you can call the Kanabec County Highway Department at **320-679-6300**. They will coordinate dropping off pallets at your address if needed. If you are able-bodied, you will be responsible for loading the pallets. When the pallets are filled, call back and advise and they will schedule for pick up and disposal. If elderly or disabled refer to "Clean-up Assistance/Volunteer Help" below.

Residents may take their own sandbags to the landfill if they choose. East Central Solid Waste Landfill (ECSWL) is located at 1756 180TH Ave (between Mora and Ogilvie on Hwy 23). Please check in at the scale and give them your name and address; all of this information needs to be tracked.

LANDFILL HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am - Noon

NO AFTER HOURS DUMPING ALLOWED!

FLOOD DEBRIS:

Disposal of flood related debris is also available at the ECSWL (ID is required). Information will be taken at the scale station to verify the debris is flood related. If it is determined not to be flood related, you will be charged.

Waste must be separated into 2 categories:

1. Construction materials, furniture/personal property, appliances, etc.
2. Hazardous wastes

Examples of hazardous waste are:

- Acids, bases
- Fluorescent lights, compact & tubular
- Insecticides
- Paint thinner, solvents, oil based paint, latex paint, stain, varnish
- Pesticides/herbicides, other agricultural chemicals
- Aerosol containers (full or partially full)
- Thermometers
- Any other household products that are poisons, flammable or corrosive

Please call **320-679-4930** for more information

CLEAN UP ASSISTANCE/VOLUNTEER HELP:

Starting Wednesday, July 18, Lakes and Pines Community Actions Council will be taking calls from people who want to volunteer, and people who would like assistance in cleaning up. Lakes & Pines will coordinate the volunteers and assistance requests. Please call **320-679-1800**.

DONATIONS:

Starting Wednesday, July 18, Lakes and Pines will also be taking calls for donations. At this time we do not know what people need so we are encouraging monetary donations so that when the need is known it can be better met. People can also go to www.lakesandpines.org to donate. "Flood Relief Donations" can be found on the Home page. We have also added a link on the Kanabec County Emergency Management page for your convenience.

Because we do not have a storage facility for material donations, we really want to encourage monetary donations.

The Salvation Army has donated clean-up kits for those impacted by flooding. They are available for pickup **during business hours** at Lakes and Pines (1700 E Maple Ave, Monday-Friday - 8:00 – 4:30p). They can be picked up at the Kanabec County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center **after hours** (100 S Vine St).

PUBLIC HEALTH AND FLOOD WATERS:

Kanabec County Community Health discourages residents from allowing their children to play or swim in flood waters. According to the CDC, *"Eating or drinking anything contaminated by flood water can cause diarrheal disease."*

To protect yourself and your family:

- Practice good hygiene (handwashing) after contact with flood waters.
- Do not allow children to play in flood water areas.
- Wash children's hands frequently (always before meals).
- Do not allow children to play with toys that have been contaminated by flood water and have not been disinfected.

It is also important to avoid flood waters if you have open wounds or rashes as they can become infected. Despite how clean the water looks you never know what could be lurking beyond eyesight.

WELL WATER SAFETY:

- The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recommends that if flood waters come within 50 feet of a well that supplies water used for drinking, cooking, or brushing teeth, the well should be tested.
- Flood waters can carry bacteria and other contaminants that may affect the quality of wells and may cause illness if consumed.
- **Well test kits are available at Kanabec County Community Health Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.**
- You may also chose to disinfect your private well yourself with a chlorine solution. If you disinfect the well yourself it is still in good practice to test the water to ensure it is safe for consumption.
- If you must use the well water for drinking or food preparation before the well has been disinfected and tested, the water must be **brought to a full rolling boil, and then boiled for at least one more minute.** Bottled water is another option.

LINKS:

Flood Precautions for Private Water Wells:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/natural/floodprecautions.html>

How to Disinfect a Private Water Well:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/waterquality/disinfection.pdf>

SEPTIC SYSTEMS:

According to University of Minnesota Extension and the Onsite Sewage Treatment Program (OSTP) staff, if you have a septic system that is in the area affected by the recent flooding, there is potential for damage to the system.

If your system was flooded, the OSTP staff has recommendations on the following website to help your system recover:

<https://septic.umn.edu/septic-system-owners/maintenance/septic-flood>

CLEAN UP TO PREVENT MOLD GROWTH:

According to the Minnesota Department of Health mold spores can germinate and grow in a moist or damp environment on any surface that contains organic matter. A home that's been flooded can provide ideal conditions for the growth and proliferation of mold.

Indoor mold can trigger allergies or allergy-like symptoms affecting the upper respiratory system. Although other, more serious problems may occur if people are exposed to very high levels of mold.

For information on basic clean-up and safety while conducting clean-up efforts visit:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/emergency/natural/floods/mold/mold.html>

STRUCTURAL FLOOD DAMAGE:

Residents suffering any structural property damage as a result of flooding should contact the Kanabec County Assessor's Office at **320-679-6420**. An appointment to physically review the property will be necessary. Please continue with your clean-up efforts but be sure to take pictures documenting the damage and keep applicable receipts for review. Depending on the severity of damage, you may be eligible for a disaster abatement and/or credit. We will assist you with that process after the review.

FLOOD RELATED LOSS:

If you have minor flood related damages to your residence or loss of personal property due to flooding, please call the Kanabec County Coordinator's Office at **320-679-6440**. We will ask for your name, address affected, phone number, description of loss, estimated loss, insurance coverage. Make sure you take pictures and keep all invoices for future reference. FEMA requires this information to be tracked. It is possible there may be individual assistance or low interest loans available in the future but if you do not report it, we cannot contact you.