

City of Des Moines

Flood Update

Media Advisory: Thursday, June 19, 2008, 10:00 AM ----

The following is a summary of new flood-related information:

River and Stream Elevations

Update from the National Weather Service as of 8:00 AM, Thursday, June 19, 2008

Thursday night partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Friday has a 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Des Moines and Raccoon rivers are flooding; however, they have crested and are going down in level.

Des Moines River Elevation at 2nd Ave: 24.30, Flood Stage 22.40.

Des Moines River Elevation at SE 6th Ave 27.74, Flood Stage 24.0.

Saylorville Elevation: 886.42.

**Flood Stage is a historical number created by determining a fixed gauge reading at which minor flooding (minimal or no property damage) begins and is valid only for the reach of the gauge.*

Disaster Recovery

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will **not open** a Disaster Recovery Center at Harding Middle School, 203 E. Euclid Avenue, in Des Moines, **today**, as had been previously announced. As new information about the opening of the Disaster Recovery Center becomes available it will be distributed.

Wireless laptops will be available at the Family and Business Assistance Centers in Union Park and for unincorporated Polk County to connect to the FEMA website and help those people, who might be eligible for assistance, submit their applications.

Information on loan assistance through the Small Business Administration is available on their website at: www.sba.gov
(There is "Disaster Assistance" link on the right.)

Streets Still Closed

The following streets remain closed:

Street	From	To
George Flagg	Fleur	Park
Prospect Rd	Hickman	MLK
Oxford	Holcomb	Guthrie

Guthrie	Oxford	Saylor
Birdland Dr	6 th	Saylor
SE 6th	Maury	Jackson
SE Livingston	SE 5th	SE 6th
Railroad	SE 8th	SE 9th

Foreclosure Prevention & Mortgage Assistance Fair

The impact of flooding on families has served to magnify challenges related to foreclosures.

A Foreclosure Prevention and Mortgage Assistance Fair will be held this Saturday at the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

Saturday, June 28, 2008

9 am - 2 p.m.

Des Moines, Iowa State Fairgrounds, Walnut Center

The fair will provide a forum for consumers to talk to lenders and experts on how to avoid foreclosures. Homeowners – whether in financial difficulties or not – will have an opportunity to ask questions about their loans, seek advice from counselors, and resolve personal concerns so that they can stay in their home.

Homeowners should bring personal financial records to the event, including loan information and mortgage statements, copies of last two pay stubs (proof of income), bank statements, most recent tax return, proof of homeowners insurance, and any foreclosure notices from their lender.

Several lenders in the Des Moines area have been invited to participate in the event. At present, the following lenders have confirmed their attendance:

Countrywide
Wells Fargo
Bank of the West
West Bank, West Des Moines

Housing counselors and other participants include:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Iowa Home Ownership Education Project
Iowa Mediation Service in conjunction with the Attorney General's Office
Iowa Legal Aid
Iowa Finance Authority
HOME Inc. (Home Opportunities Made Easy)
Operation Threshold
Family Management Credit Counselors
Neighborhood Finance Corporation
Consumer Credit Counseling Service
Consumer Credit of Des Moines

Information on Downtown Events

From the Downtown Community Alliance:

The Farmers' Market is in full swing this weekend with a bountiful supply of strawberries and other produce. Don't miss the "Flood of Music," a special weeklong music event being held at People's Court. The I-Cubs and Barnstormers are also in town, and fans can expect to see action-packed games. Interested in helping flood victims? Attend the Disaster Relief Fundraiser being held in the East Village on Thursday and Friday.

Please note: Nitefall on the River will be held on the east end of the Walnut Street Bridge.

For more information or assistance in locating contact information for flood resources, the public may contact the Information Center at 283-4500 or the Public Works 24-hour Call Center at 283-4950.

Marylee Woods
City Manager's Office
City of Des Moines
400 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, IA 50309
515-283-4501
www.dmgov.org
mlwoods@dmgov.org