

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Burnett County Urges Caution During Flood Cleanup

Siren, WI—Burnett County sustained torrential rains in the area on Monday, July 11th through the early morning hours of July 12th. Reports of over 9” of rain fell in the region.

Here are the current road closures as of 7/13/16:

State Road 77 Bridge is closed at State Line River Bridge
Detour: State Road 35S to Siren and head West on State Road 70
State Road 35 closed at Riverside
Detour: State Road 77 heading East to Hwy 53
County Road H closed from State Road 77 to Lake 26 Road
North & South Markville Road are closed

Numerous town roads are damaged and may be closed. If you see a road covered in water, proceed with caution, the road potentially could be washed out underneath. Please call your local township if you have any questions about possible road closures.

We urge you to watch for Burnett County Highway Department’s advance warning signs, road barriers, and/or cones that indicate the road ahead may be impacted by flooding. Recreational trail users should use caution when riding trails. Many trails throughout the county have minor erosion and washouts. Watch for these eroded areas as well as contractors and equipment that are on the trail working to fix these areas.

Private wells can be contaminated. If you have a well that has been flooded you should assume that the well is contaminated. Do not drink or bathe in water from a private well that has been flooded. Consider alternatives such as, any community supply, if available or bottled water. If these alternative sources are not available, boil water for one minute at a rolling boil before use.

Once floodwaters have receded, wells should be tested for contamination. Please contact the local health department for information and resources on testing wells. A list of state laboratories can be found at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wells/documents/privatelabs.pdf>
The Wisconsin DNR provides guidance on how to cope with a flooded well:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/emergency/FloodCoping.html>

We will continue to update as new information becomes available on our website
www.burnettcounty.com.