

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
7/14/2016

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Washburn County Storm - Update

Washburn County sustained torrential rains in the area from the Monday, July 11th storm. Reports over 9" of rain fell in the region.

Road Conditions – As of 7/14/16:

All state roads in Washburn County are now open please use caution as there is loose gravel in spots. Some County and Town roads remain closed. Please call your local township if you have any questions about possible road closures.

We urge you to watch for Washburn County Highway Department's advance warning signs, road barriers, and/or cones that indicate the road ahead may be impacted by flooding.

Spoooner, Wis. (July 13, 2016) –Due to recent flooding, a small portion of the Washburn County ATV Trail system is closed at this time. The Wild River State Trail is open with small re-routes. County forest trails north of County Highway F are closed, impacting trail 8 and a portion of trail 39. ATV travel is not recommended after dark due to changing conditions. In addition, travel is not advised on any county forest road in the northern half of Washburn County at this time. Many of these roads have significant washouts, standing water and are not safe for travel.

For updates on trail conditions, visit www.washburncounty.org or call 1-800-367-3306.

Private Well Owners

Flood water may contain high levels of raw sewage or other hazardous substances, including: fertilizer; manure; gasoline; and pesticides. Bacteria, chemicals and other contaminants contained in floodwaters can enter the top of your well, seep down its casing, or move underground to your well via a neighbor's flooded out well. This contamination can make your water unsafe for drinking, cooking and preparing food.

- Private well owners whose well has been flooded should assume that flooded wells are contaminated.
 - Do not drink or bathe in water from a private well that has been or is flooded.
 - Wait until floodwaters have receded before sampling or disinfecting your well.
 - To sample your water supply yourself, obtain a well water testing kit from your local public health department. Call Washburn County Health Dept at 715-635-4400.
 - If contamination is found, disinfect your well/water supply. See guide on Well Disinfection at DNR website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wells/flood.html>
 - Until the test results are known, follow these procedures to ensure safe drinking water:
 - Drink bottled water or water from a known, safe source.
 - If necessary, you can make water safe to drink by boiling it for five minutes.
- When in doubt, if the water is **CLOUDY, ODOROUS, COLORED - DO NOT DRINK THE WATER!**

We will continue to update as new information becomes available on our website
www.co.washburn.wi.us