

Press Release

For immediate release

Richland County Emergency Management

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Congressman Ron Kind Visits Richland County

Congressman Ron Kind toured Lone Rock this morning to view the damage caused to the area by the recent flooding. The region has been overwhelmed by ground water that is coming up from the earth and pumping continues in that area. Emergency Management Director, Darin Gudgeon, met with Congressman Kind and reviewed the damages sustained in Richland County due to the flooding of June 8th, while also recapping the approximate losses to the area. Richland County has yet to receive formal declaration from FEMA at this time.

Congressman Kind empathized with the citizens of Richland County and stated that he “is concerned with the losses to family farms which can’t take this kind of hit.” The Midwest has sustained significant crop damage and Congressman Kind stated that the Department of Agriculture will be working in conjunction with FEMA to develop a package for these area farmers. Congressman Kind noted “it is too late to plant a second crop and we were really anticipating a good return this year.”

Congressman Kind reported that if Richland County is approved for FEMA assistance low interest loans will be available to flood victims. Darin Gudgeon stated that many farmers do have crop insurance.

Flood victims are reporting sewage in their basements. Marianne Stanek, Public Health Officer, stated that “any item that cannot be cleaned with soap and water and then sanitized with bleach should be discarded.” Public Health questions are being answered at (608) 647-8564.

Richland County Emergency Management continues tabulating and reviewing damage assessment data today. Clean up efforts continue in the communities of Viola, Buena Vista, Lone Rock, Rockbridge, and Yuba. Flood victims are encouraged to continue submitting damage assessment forms or call into the Damage Assessment Hotline at (608) 647-8962.

For up to date information, visit the Richland County website at co.richland.wi.us.

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