



STATE OF WISCONSIN \

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS  
Wisconsin Emergency Management

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**DATE:** June 9, 2008  
8:00 PM

**TO:** Governor Jim Doyle  
Wisconsin Congressional Delegation  
State Legislators

**FROM:** Johnnie Smith  
Administrator

**SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT ON STORMS #15**

**OVERVIEW** – Efforts continue to deliver assistance in the aftermath of severe rainfall and flooding. Governor Doyle visited Oak Creek and Lake Delton today viewing damage and meeting with residents and local officials.

**Department of Natural Resources:** The DNR sent up aircraft and conducted a flyover of Vernon County dams. Information gathered will be used by DNR engineers, Vernon County officials and National Resources Conservation Service officials to begin planning for emergency stabilization and long-term dam repair. DNR is assisting with debris clean-up in Marshall, Viola and Sauk City. Wardens will be deployed to Richland and Columbia counties tomorrow. DNR Forestry Teams have been pumping in: Juneau County, Richland County, Vernon County, Iowa County. Some pumps will be re-deployed to Viola tomorrow.

**Current Dam Conditions:**

After Lake Delton washed away a portion of HWY A and created a new channel into the Wisconsin River draining the lake into the river, pressure on the **Lake Delton Dam** has been relieved and water levels at the **Mirror Lake Dam** have stabilized.

**Lake Redstone Dam has NOT failed:** There have been reports that the Lake Redstone Dam has failed, but this so far has been contradicted by staff at the scene.

**Other dams:**

- Kohl Dam in Adams County (1 mile from the Wisconsin River) has failed. There are no residences or buildings in danger.
- White Creek Dam in Adams County is predicted to fail. The dam is 9 miles south of the city of Adams. There are no residences or buildings in danger.
- Horlicks Dam in Racine is showing signs of seepage. The dam owners are monitoring the situation.

- Cushman Dam east of Ft. Atkinson in Jefferson County along the Bark River has failed releasing a 40 acre pond. No significant damage reported.
- Wyocena Dam in Columbia County has experienced erosion and part of the embankment has washed out. At the moment there is no threat to property.
- Pardeeville Dam in Columbia County – An emergency spillway has been constructed over State Highway 22. The highway has been closed to accommodate flows. The dam is stressed but has not failed. It is being sandbagged.
- Marshall Dam was inspected by the village's engineer this morning and he advised that dam is utilizing its spillway.
- Upper Spring Dam in Palmyra on Spring Lake has failed
- Fall River Dam on the Crawfish River has been close to overtopping but is holding at last report.
- Beaver Dam River is now passing a record flow.
- Sandbagging is underway on the Lowell Dam on the Beaver Dam River.
- Danville River Dam downstream of Columbus on the Crawfish River is overtopping
- Saylesville Dam is overtopping and a sink hole developed in the left embankment. Sandbagging is underway around the hole to prevent further erosion.

**WI National Guard:** The WI National Guard conducted an aerial damage assessment today with a National Guard engineer assessment team and Vernon County deputy sheriff. One Guard engineer assessment team will be on the ground in Vernon County and one in Lake Delton tomorrow to determine what equipment and supplies will be needed to begin repairs. The National Guard also conducted an aerial inspection of the Wisconsin River from Portage to Lake Delton for debris provided that information to DOT. The Guard has access to an RC-26 airplane from the Mississippi National Guard that can provide high-definition photos. State agencies will coordinate with the Guard on areas that need to be photographed using this technology.

**Dept. of Transportation/Road Closures:** WI DOT posted a maintenance engineer for several hours on I-39 to monitor debris flow from Lake Delton. No major debris was observed that would negatively impact the I-39 bridge. The WI Dept. of Transportation web site (<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/incident-alerts.htm>) has up-to-date information on road closures for Interstate and major state highways. DOT estimates that portions of at least 3 dozen state highways are closed due to flooding.

**WI State Patrol:** Three strike forces remain in Gays Mills, Soldier's Grove and Vernon County.

**Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection:** DATCP programs specialists are working with co-ops and producers to ensure fertilizers and pesticide containment structures are stable and that animal feed is protected from floodwater contamination.

**Sauk County:** HWY 33 bridge in Reedsburg is closed due to structural instability. Sauk County officials are considering a partial evacuation of Baraboo this evening. If this takes place evacuees would be sheltered at the Park Plaza Hotel. The Village of Plain Waste Water plant was flooded. One pump has been repaired and the facility is operating at limited capacity. The

lift station in the park in North Freedom was flooded and will impact the waste water plant. The Railroad Museum in North Freedom is flooded.

**Vernon County:** There are 113 roads closed. La Farge and Viola are reporting record water levels. Road access to Viola is possible but difficult. Damage assessment will begin tomorrow morning.

**Merrimac Ferry:** The Merrimac Ferry, which crosses the WI River from Okee in Columbia County to Merrimac in Sauk County is closed due to high water.

**Red Cross –** The Red Cross has closed their shelters in Madison, Spring Green and Ontario and decided not to open a shelter in Portage due to lack of need. Open shelters include: Lake Delton, Columbus, Gays Mills/Soldiers Grove, La Farge, Viroqua, Reedsburg, Richland Center, Elroy, Avoca and Racine. The Red Cross also is supporting a shelter in Viola. Distribution centers will be open on Tuesday in La Farge, Kendall, Ontario and Viola for distribution of water, clean-up kits, etc. Disaster assessment will begin tomorrow in Vernon County.

**Salvation Army/Lutheran Social Services:** The Salvation Army is establishing a sixth feeding site in Gays Mills. Lutheran Social Services has crisis counselors available in many Red Cross shelters.

**Damage Reporting:** Residents affected by this weekend's storms and flooding should report their damage to their county emergency management offices or call 2-1-1 if they need immediate assistance.

**Waukesha County:** The Waukesha State Office building at 141 NW Barstow Street will be closed again tomorrow due to flooding in the parking lot and around the perimeter of the building. Also, Waukesha County has set up a hotline for residents affected by this weekend's storms and flooding – 262-548-7110.

The State Emergency Operations Center remains fully activated.

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