

April 29, 2014
#140429-WEATHER

Contact: Joy Tsubooka, Public Information Officer
(850) 983-5254, (850) 393-8304 Cell
joyt@santarosa.fl.gov

Area Flash Flooding Creates Extremely Dangerous Conditions

According to the National Weather Service, the entire panhandle is currently experiencing severe flash flooding conditions. Residents are urged to stay off the roads as it is extremely dangerous, even impeding the response times of emergency responders. Flooding conditions are county-wide, stranding numerous cars, even large trucks.

Many low-lying areas of the county are flooded and are expected to remain flooded tonight and into the morning as residents are preparing to leave for work and school. Standing water creates a serious road hazard, even when only a portion of the roadway is flooded. Motorists should always avoid crossing flooded streets and should never attempt to cross flooded bridges.

Santa Rosa County Actions

- The Santa Rosa County Emergency Operations Center is currently at a level 2 activation, or partial activation with essential personnel.
- Residents with flood damage to their home can report damage online at <http://santarosa.fl.gov/EmergencyNEW/WebDamage.cfm> or by calling (850) 983-5360.
- County offices will be open Wednesday, May 1.

Shelter Openings

- The American Red Cross has opened a shelter at the Milton Community Center, 5629 Byrom Street in Milton for those that are experiencing flooding in their home.
- Those needing transportation to the shelter can call (850) 983-INFO or 4626

Santa Rosa County Schools

- The Santa Rosa County School District has canceled school for Wednesday, May 1 due to unsafe road conditions.

Reported Flooding/Damage

- Santa Rosa County Emergency Management has asked that U.S. Hwy. 90 be closed from Woodbine Road to the Glover Lane area
- Widespread flooding of county roads
- Sheridan Oaks subdivision in Pace is flooded and several residents are being evacuated by fire personnel or leaving on their own.
- House fire on 7200 Bayshore Drive in Waterview Estates. No damage estimates or cause known at this time.
- Six campers stranded at the KOA Campgrounds, 8700 Gulf Pines Drive in Milton. They are being transported to the Milton Community Center Shelter.

Septic Tanks

- If your septic tank has been flooded, it is likely that your toilets will not flush. Flushing may cause the untreated sewage to back-up into your home.
- It is safest to wait until the water recedes before trying to flush toilets.
- Depending on the amount of flooding or damage to your system, you may need to have a professional repair or servicing once the water recedes and the ground is less saturated.

General Safety Information

- www.santarosa.fl.gov or follow us on Twitter at @SRCBOCC
- Please monitor your home weather radio and local media outlets for the most up-to-date information.
- Your best defense in any disaster is a NOAA Weather radio.
- Citizens can signup to automatically receive breaking news alerts from Santa Rosa County Emergency Management via e-mail or as a text message on their cell phone at:
www.santarosa.fl.gov/emergency/publicwarning.html.

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