

PORTAGE COUNTY

For Immediate Release

March 18, 2019

The amount of surface water from remaining snow and recent rain gradually diminished over the weekend. The Portage County Highway Department reports that water levels appear to be going down. As waters recede, crews will remove barricades and barrels once they are able to verify the structural integrity of roads. Culvert maintenance and shoulder washout repairs will continue this week. Road closures reported to the county can be viewed on the map link on the county's website, <https://www.co.portage.wi.us/>.

Weather forecasts this week call for below freezing temperatures overnight with increasing daytime temperatures as the week progresses. Little to no precipitation is in the forecast.

Despite these improvements, homes and businesses in Portage County and other areas of the state sustained water damage. In the Villages of Plover and Park Ridge, sandbags are still available. All residents of Portage County may request small quantities of empty sand bags from the customer service desk of the Plover Fire Department at 2400 Post Road between 8 am and 4 pm. Individuals will need to furnish their own shovels and they will have to fill their own sand bags. Sand is available in the parking lot next to the Plover Municipal building.

“The Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance is urging property owners impacted by flooding across the state to review their insurance coverage and to take steps that may help their recovery.” Additional information from the insurance commissioner's office about steps to take in evaluating and responding to property damage from flooding can be found at <https://oci.wi.gov/Pages/PressReleases/20190315PRFlooding.aspx>.

Portage County property owners can call their personal insurance agents with questions about property and automobile damage from water. The United Way 211 call center personnel are still taking calls to document damage for property owners of both private residences as well as businesses. At this time the damage Portage County sustained **does** not meet the minimal threshold to qualify for Federal individual assistance programs.

For mental and emotional help and support, call 1-800-985-5990 or text TALK WITH US to 66746.

Continue to monitor the weather throughout the week, as local flooding could occur.

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