

## **Nebraska Flooding** **March 14, 2019**

### **Governor John Peter Ricketts**

P.O. Box 94848

Lincoln, NE 68509-4848

(402) 471-2244

<https://governor.nebraska.gov>

March 14, 2019 Governor Pete Ricketts and state agencies provided an update on the significant weather events and flooding that are impacting the State of Nebraska.

“Snow and rain continue to have a significant impact on our state, and many communities are already experiencing flooding,” said Governor Ricketts. “Nebraskans should watch the weather and waterways in their communities closely in the coming days, and be prepared for historic levels of flooding even if it has not hit their community yet. As Nebraskans know, conditions can change quickly, and everyone needs to be prepared.”

Following an emergency declaration on Tuesday evening, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has opened the State Emergency Operation Center (SEOC) in response to the weather-related hazardous conditions currently affecting the state.

NEMA officials and partner agencies are monitoring conditions, fielding calls from citizens and community partners, and providing information and resources to keep citizens safe.

The emergency declaration will allow NEMA and other state agencies to address potential impacts from the severe winter storm affecting the Panhandle area, as well as flooding across other areas of the state.

**Weather:** The Panhandle and North Central Nebraska are under a blizzard warning. Wind gusts up to 89 mph have been measured by the National Weather Service. Rain in the eastern part of the state and snow and ice melt are contributing to potentially historic flooding.

**Community Shelters:** Shelters are opening as needed. Currently, shelters are available in Broken Bow and Avoca. People who need shelter in these communities should contact their local emergency management official. A directory can be found at

<https://nema.nebraska.gov/overview/county-emergency-management-directorscoordinators>

**Nebraska National Guard:** The Nebraska National Guard has opened the Broken Bow Armory for any evacuated citizens, and other armories in the state are available if needed. The Guard has a helicopter on standby for a potential ice dusting mission later this week. As a reminder, all requests for National Guard support must come through NEMA.

**Nebraska State Patrol:** As a reminder, the Nebraska State Patrol Highway Helpline is available 24 hours per day for motorists in need of assistance. Drivers can reach NSP by dialing \*55 from any cell phone. Call 911 for any emergency.

## **Nebraska Emergency Management Agency**

2433 N.W. 24th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68524-1801  
(402) 471-7421

<https://nema.nebraska.gov>

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance Unit works with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide assistance in the wake of disaster. Federal assistance may be granted when the situation is clearly beyond the capability of both the local and state governments. Federal assistance determination is based on a number of factors which include: population (tax base), impact on jurisdictions and recent disaster history.

The Public Assistance Program is available to assist with reimbursement of repairs to damaged eligible facilities to include: roads, bridges, water control facilities, buildings, equipment, utilities, parks and recreational facilities. It is also available to assist with reimbursement of emergency functions such as debris removal and emergency protective actions. This program is made available to eligible applicants including: local governments, state government, certain non-profit organizations, schools, and Native American tribal governments that are located in a designed damage area. The federal cost share for this program will not be less than 75% of eligible expenses for emergency measures and permanent restoration.

Check FEMA's flood map service center for your area to see the flood risk for your community at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

## **Nebraska Department of Transportation**

1500 Nebraska 2, Lincoln, NE 68502  
(402) 471-4567

<https://dot.nebraska.gov>

<http://511.nebraska.gov>

### Highway Closures:

#### NE 2

Between East Rolla Avenue and West Sommer Avenue (1 mile east of Anselmo). Look out for flooding.

Between NE 71; County Road 82 (11 miles west of Hemingford) and US 385 (8 miles west of Alliance). The route is impassable. Travel is not advised.

Between US 385; County Road 65 (Alliance) and Abbott Road (12 miles west of Hyannis). The route is impassable. Travel is not advised.

Between NE 61 and Mason Avenue (Hyannis). The roadway is completely covered with mixed snow ice or slush. Travel is not advised.

Between Putnam Street (2 miles west of Litchfield) and NE 11 (Cairo). The route is impassable. Expect blowing snow.

#### NE 2B Spur

Between US 20 and Franklin Street (Brunswick). The route is impassable.

#### NE 4A Spur

Between NE 71 and Court Street (Harrisburg). The route is impassable. Travel is not advised.

US 6

Between NE 47; Patterson Street (Cambridge) and A Road (10 miles west of Atlanta). The roadway is completely covered with mixed snow ice or slush.

NE 7 Link both directions

Between NE 2 and NE 87; Dodge Road (Hemingford). The route is impassable. Travel is not advised.

NE 8A Spur

Between NE 12; County Road and the end of NE 8A Spur (Naper). The roadway is completely covered with snow. Travel is not advised.

NE 9

Between NE 51 and NE 87A Spur (Pender). The route is impassable. Travel is not advised.

NE 10

Between East Elm Street (Pleasanton) and NE 2 (near Hazard). The route is impassable. Expect blowing snow.

Please visit <http://511.nebraska.gov> individual street closures.

### **Nebraska United Way**

<https://www.unitedway.org/local/united-states/nebraska>

### **United Way/211 Information and Referrals Line**

These information and referral lines may know of additional resources currently providing assistance, such as food pantries, clothing closets, emergency shelters, and agencies offering financial assistance. Please call and provide your zip code and demographic information in order to receive referrals.

### **American Red Cross**

<http://www.redcross.org/find-your-local-chapter>

State website <https://www.redcross.org/local/nebraska.html>

Capital Area and Eastern Nebraska

220 Oakcreek Dr.

Lincoln, NE 68528

(402) 441-7997

Serves Butler, Cedar, Colfax, Cuming, Dixon, Gage, Johnson, Lancaster, Madison, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Pierce, Platte, Polk, Richardson, Seward, Stanton, Wayne, and York counties

Central and Western Nebraska

404 E. 3rd Street

Grand Island, NE 68801

(308) 382-3790

Serves Adams, Antelope, Arthur, Banner, Blaine, Buffalo, Boone, Box Butte, Boyd, Brown, Chase, Cherry, Cheyenne, Clay, Custer, Dawes, Dawson, Deuel, Dundy, Fillmore, Franklin, Frontier, Furnas, Garden, Garfield, Grant, Greeley, Gosper, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hayes, Hitchcock, Holt, Hooker, Howard, Jefferson, Kearney, Keith, Keya Paha, Kimball, Knox, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, McPherson, Merrick, Morrill, Nance, Nuckolls, Perkins, Phelps, Red Willow, Rock, Saline, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan, Sherman, Sioux, Thayer, Thomas, Valley, Webster, and Wheeler counties.

American Red Cross of the Omaha/Council Bluffs Metro

2912 S 80th Ave

Omaha, NE 68124

(402) 343-7700

Serves Burt, Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders, Thurston and Washington in Nebraska; and Pottawattamie, Mills, and Harrison Counties in Western Iowa.

### **American Red Cross Open Shelters**

Lutheran High Northeast

2010 N. 37th St.

NORFOLK, NE 68702

Village of North Loup Community Center

12 S B St.

North Loup, NE 68859

St. Edward Fire and Rescue

1302 Hwy 39

SAINT EDWARD, NE 68660

### **National Resources**

#### **Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration**

##### **Disaster Distress Helpline**

(800) 985-5990

National mental health helpline that is available to those who have experienced a natural or human caused disaster. The helpline is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The counselors are able to provide support and referrals to local resources.

#### **National Weather Service**

Weather alerts by state are available at <http://www.weather.gov/alerts>. There are currently no active alerts for North Carolina.

### **The Weather Channel**

Provides local forecasts and severe weather alerts, available at <http://www.weather.com>. Select “Weather News” and then click on “Severe Weather Alerts” to search for alerts by state. Information related to Hurricane Irma may be found at <https://weather.com/storms/hurricane-central>.

### **American Red Cross Safe and Well List**

<https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php>

Residents affected can notify their friends and family that they are safe by visiting the website and selecting “List Myself as Safe and Well”. Individuals can also search for loved ones by selecting “Search Registrants”.

### **Optum Help Line**

Free Help Line: Optum, a leading health and behavioral health services company, is offering a free emotional-support help line.

The toll-free number, 866-342-6892, will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for as long as necessary. The service is free of charge and open to anyone. Specially trained Optum mental health specialists help people manage their stress and anxiety so they can continue to address their everyday needs. Callers may also receive referrals to community resources to help them with specific concerns, including financial and legal matters.

Along with the toll-free help line, emotional-support resources and information are available online at <https://www.liveandworkwell.com>