



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Sen. Jason Crowell Continues Work to Aid Flood Victims

JEFFERSON CITY– Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today is continuing efforts to help those in Southeast Missouri facing the dangers of recent flooding and severe weather. A coordinated emergency response is underway, and state agencies are working to ensure the safety of those in affected areas.

“My main priority is that the citizens in our community are safe and have access to all necessary resources,” said Sen. Crowell. “Whether that includes water rescue, shelters, or access to the most current information, I am making sure that these services are accessible throughout the area.”

The state has asked the federal government to quickly approve Disaster Declarations for both Individual Assistance and Public Assistance to cover uninsured damages in affected areas. Preliminary Damage Assessments will be requested as soon as flood waters recede enough to allow access to damaged areas.

In Cape Girardeau County, more than ten inches of rain was received. Three Coast Guard and three Water Patrol teams have responded to assist with water rescues. As of last night, major highways in many areas and several city streets were flooded and impassable causing residences to be evacuated. Currently, much of the primary concern is in Allenville and Dutchtown, which are being evacuated.

In Bollinger County, there have been problems from a flooding creek in downtown Marble Hill. Approximately 40 residents in Zamla have been evacuated due to flooding in the area and a heightened danger to those citizens. Routes throughout the county have been closed due to flooding. The National Guard is in the county performing welfare checks.

A Jackson resident was confirmed dead after the man’s truck was swept into the water in Marble Hill. “My thoughts will be with those who are grieving today, and I send my condolences to the families suffering from this tragedy,” said Sen. Crowell.

To help those displaced by flooding, the Department of Social Services is working with local service agencies to open shelters in affected areas. These include two locations in Marble Hill: the first at the Grace Fellowship Family Center located at 313 Presnell St. (573-238-4746) and the second in Marble Hill

at the First Baptist Church (Family Life Center) located at 502 Broadway (573-238-2545). There are also shelters in Delta at the Delta Community Center located at 211 E. State St. (573-794-2200), in Cape Girardeau at the Salvation Army Shelter located at 701 Good Hope Street (573-335-7000), in Zalma at the Zalma General Baptist Church located at HC 2 (573-722-3167), and in Piedmont at the Harvest Baptist Church located at 1606 S. Main (573-223-7433). Families seeking shelter are being urged to use these resources.

State agencies working on relief efforts also include:

- The State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), which has activated the State Emergency Operations Center to a 24-hour basis.
- The Department of Conservation, which is sending conservation agents to assist local governments with evacuations.
- The Department of Health and Senior Services, which is assessing the affects of flooding on local nursing homes, hospitals and health clinics and sending staff to facilities in need.
- The Department of Mental Health, which is continuing to check any facilities in case of problems.
- The Department of Natural Resources, which is working to ascertain the status of public drinking water and wastewater treatment plants. Water Resources staff are continuing to monitor river levels while dam safety staff are responding to safety issues.
- The Department of Social Services, which is working with the American Red Cross to get local shelters open and make sure care is available.
- The Department of Transportation, which is keeping the public up to date on road closures on its website at www.modot.mo.gov.
- The Missouri National Guard, which has teams moving forward to assist in Marble Hill and Piedmont. A total of 27 National Guard Members have been activated for State Emergency Duty.
- The Missouri State Fire Marshal's Office, which has been activated to deliver mutual aid and has dispatched HazMat teams.
- The Missouri State Highway Patrol, which is assisting stranded motorists, assisting local communities in closing highways, and helping with evacuations.
- The Missouri State Water Patrol, which has 20 officers assisting with water rescues in several counties.
- The Office of Administration, which is onsite at the State Emergency Operations Center to assist local jurisdictions with their resource needs.

“This is a cooperative emergency effort that requires collaboration from state agencies to make sure that there is shelter and help available,” said Sen. Crowell. “I want you to know that, while we have no control over this disastrous weather, emergency relief is organized and available.”

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