

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Residents Urged to Report Flood Damage to Local Officials Timeline of Events in Upper Peninsula Counties Outlined

LANSING, MICH. State officials continue to work closely with local emergency management personnel to evaluate the aftermath of widespread flooding in Houghton and Menominee counties following severe weather and intense rain on June 16-17.

Impacted residents and business owners are encouraged to call 2-1-1 to report personal property damage as well as receive flood recovery guidance. Do not call 9-1-1 to report flood damage.

"We are working to collect and compile this crucial information with our local partners," said Insp. Chris Bush, commander of the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD). "For any potential assistance after a disaster, the first step is assessing all localized damage."

To assist with insurance claims, individuals should take an inventory of valuables and belongings, including taking photographs or a video. Vehicle owners should report any damages to their auto insurance company.

Timeline of Events

Saturday, June 16 and Sunday, June 17

Excessive rainfall, up to seven inches fell within nine hours, affected multiple counties in the western Upper Peninsula, most heavily impacting Houghton and Menominee counties.

Sunday, June 17

The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was activated at 11:23 a.m. due to flooding and severe weather in Houghton and Menominee counties.

Monday, June 18

Gov. Rick Snyder declared a state of disaster for Houghton and Menominee counties after severe weather and heavy rainfall struck both counties, resulting in widespread flooding damage.

American Red Cross opened one shelter (and it remains open):

Calumet Colosseum 110 Red Jacket Road Calumet, MI 49913

Tuesday, June 19

Gov. Rick Snyder toured damaged areas with state officials.

Residents are reminded to continue using extreme caution dealing with electrical matters. Never touch a fallen power line and always call the utility company to report fallen power lines.

If electrical circuits or equipment have gotten wet or are in or near water, turn off the power at the main breaker or fuse on the service panel. Do not turn the power back on until electrical equipment has been inspected by a qualified electrician.

Additionally, Residents should continue to follow all warnings about water on roadways. Do not drive vehicles or heavy equipment through water and do not drive around or move barricades. Flooding can weaken roads or cause them to wash out entirely, making driving through flooded areas dangerous.

For additional safety tips, follow the MSP/EMHSD on Twitter at @MichEMHS or go to www.michigan.gov/miready. For additional information on flooding in the western Upper Peninsula visit www.michigan.gov/emhsd

The public is encouraged to monitor local media for up-to-date disaster information.

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The SEOC is the emergency operations center for the state of Michigan. Located in Lansing, the SEOC is overseen by the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division and coordinates response and recovery efforts by state agencies and local government. The SEOC is staffed by members of state agencies for decision making and information coordination during disasters or emergencies in the state of Michigan.

MEDIA CONTACT:

State Emergency Operations Center Public Information Officer 517-284-3882 or msp-seocpio@michigan.gov