Projected crest remains at 36.5 feet

Saturday, June 6, 2015

National Weather Service experts said this morning that they are still projecting the Red River to crest at 36.5 feet on Sunday. As of 10 a.m., the river was at 35.77 feet.

Caddo officials gathered this morning to hear the latest projections and share information about ongoing efforts to fight flooding.

- The City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish, DOTD, and LA National Guard are working to reinforce a retaining wall between the dirt levees on Clyde Fant Parkway at the Jimmie Davis Bridge. The National Guard and local crews are also working to secure the Stoner Lift Station. Both projects should be completed today.
- No water is reported in Sci-Port or Review Theater; however, Caddo inmates will be fortifying with more sandbags today as a precautionary measure.
- All levees are still in good condition with no overtopping.
- Officials are continuing to evaluate all high-risk areas, including Allendale, Martin Luther King Drive, the Havens, and Les Maisons. Police, Fire, and Deputies are continuing door-to-door checks to provide assistance and information to residents.
- Water is reported in homes on Aline, Bagley, Barataria, Brice, Dixie Shreveport, Wells Island, Gain, Nash, Oregon, and Perrin. It is unknown how many families have evacuated since reporting is not mandatory.
- The DOTD is monitoring a one-quarter mile stretch of Martin Luther King Drive at McCain Creek where water is at the roadside. There are no current plans to close the road, but if that occurs contingency plans are in place to provide fire, police, and other emergency services to the neighborhood.
- Approximately 100 Caddo inmate workers are being utilized to fill sandbags, stack sandbags, and assist with other flood fortification projects. Forty additional inmates from Winn and Avoyelles parishes are also assisting.
- Sandbag stations will remain open 24 hours a day at Parish Public Works at 1701 Monty Street and City Streets and Drainage at 3825 Mansfield Road.
- The Northwest Louisiana Red Cross is operating shelters in Caddo Parish at the LSU-S Red River Radio Building, 8675 Youree Drive, and at Southern University-Shreveport in the gymnasium, 3052 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive. The Red Cross is partnering with the Salvation Army to provide meals for shelter residents.

Officials are encouraging all residents in jeopardized areas to be vigilant and have and emergency plan even if they do not experience flooding by Sunday. The NWS is predicting rain by mid-week, which could cause localized flooding because of already full drainage systems.

The Department of Health and Hospitals is encouraging residents who have private water wells to have their wells and pumps cleaned and inspected if they were impacted by flooding. Storm damage and flooding often introduce pollution into the water system by overtopping well-heads and compromising containment systems.

The EPA, CDC and others have developed standard protocols for emergency disinfection of private water wells following a storm or flood. DHH officials say to ensure health and safety it is best to have a professional, licensed contractor disinfect and test the well. Water well owners can contact their parish sanitarian, usually located at the parish health unit, to get the latest information on private water well testing. Working closely with parish sanitarians and engineers through the Safe Drinking Water Program, state-certified labs may be available to perform some bacteriological or chemical tests on your private water well.

A listing of state-certified labs is available at www.dhh.la.gov. Type in “Laboratory Certification” to get listings.

In other cases, parish sanitarians may refer well owners to local or national testing laboratories.

Check out Drinking Water Information on DHH's Drinking Water Watch website: https://sdw.oph.dhh.la.gov/DWW/ for more information.

Road Closures as of noon today include:

Shreveport:

Clyde Fant Pkwy NB from Shreveport Barksdale to Milam

Clyde Fant SB from Milam to Stoner

Crockett EB from Spring to Clyde Fant

Jack Wells closed from Clyde Fant to Airport Dr

From the 100 block of Crockett to the 600 block of Commerce

Hall Street from Brice to Northside

Brice Street from Bonnie to Aline

Russell Road from Gain to Hilary Huckaby

Russell Road from Hilary Huckaby to Cross Bayou

Old Blanchard at Holcomb to Hilary Huckaby

Dixie- Shreveport from I-220 to George Rd

Old Mooringsport – Dixie Shreveport to I-220

Russell Road at I-220

1700 block of Nash

1700 block of Bonnie

1700 block of Gain

2100 block of Perrin

Hartman

McCain Creek/Montana – water is 1' from touching the bridge

Wells Island has signs up at Motes Island Circle – Road closed; water about 1' deep

MLK east end near Ravendale/Hwy 1 – water has risen to shoulder

Parish:

Barricades at Wells Island & Mayfair

1400 block of Wells Island (Grimmett Drive side)

1200 block of Wells Island

Bagley from Levee eastward

Caddo Bossier Port closed – Doug Attaway from Francis Bickham to John Holt

LA 3049 (Dixie Shreveport Road) north of Grimmett

DOTD:

Jimmie Davis ramp to Clyde Fant