



BERRIEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

919 PORT STREET, ST. JOSEPH, MICHIGAN 49085-1184
PHONE: (269) 983-7111 • FAX: (269) 983-9956
WWW.BCSHERIFF.ORG

L. PAUL BAILEY
SHERIFF

CHARLES E. HEIT
UNDERSHERIFF

ROBERT BOYCE
CHIEF DEPUTY

PRESS RELEASE

Date and Time: February 25, 2018 at 13:30hrs

Citizens Urged to Report Flood Damage to Local Officials *Timeline of Events in Berrien County*

Berrien County officials continue to work closely with local emergency personnel to evaluate the aftermath of widespread flooding in Berrien county following severe weather and intense rain in February 2018

Impacted citizens and business owners are encouraged to report personal property damage using the phone numbers listed below. Do not call 911 to report flood damage:

- Berrien County – 1-800-815-5485 (This number will be staffed beginning at 09:00hrs on Monday February 26, 2018)

Flood recovery guidance is also available by calling 211.

“Our local partners are collecting and compiling this crucial information, “Localized damage assessment is the first step for any potential assistance after a disaster.”

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.

One shelter is open (and remains open):

Berrien Springs Middle School
502 Middle School Dr.
Berrien Springs, MI. 49103

**Please note pets are not allowed inside*

If individuals are displaced from their residences and are temporarily residing at the shelter, the Berrien County Animal Control Office will continue to assist with the housing needs of your pets.

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 and 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, citizens 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.

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