



NORTHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Monte D. Nelson
Chief of Police

Mark W. Dukatz
Deputy Chief of Police



Press Release Local Flood Warning - Expected Rise in River Levels September 22, 2016, 2:00 p.m.

The Northfield Police Department is Warning the Northfield Community of potential/expected flooding in and along the Cannon River.

As a result of the saturated conditions and heavy rain amounts received across the region in the last 24 hours, the Cannon River is rising at a very fast rate. We have observed a 6" rise in the river level at the Fire Station about one hour's time this morning. Information from Rice and Steele County agencies indicates the river levels will continue to rise at a very fast rate today, and NWS experts predict the river will rise at least another 1.5' from the current level. If this happens, the river elevation would reach approximately 900'.

Downtown Businesses along the Cannon River and Carleton College are taking steps to protect their property, buildings, and contents.

- If your home or business is in a flood prone area, and you have not prepared for, or taken protective measures, you should take action now.

- We have posted numerous resources, guidelines, and contact information on the Northfield website home page under "Emergency Preparedness Resources," at the following link;

<http://www.ci.northfield.mn.us/index.aspx?NID=985>

Mayor Dana Graham has signed an Emergency Declaration for this flood event to aid in timely City response. Faribault has also declared an Emergency, and Rice County also expects to declare. City staff will continue to protect city property and infrastructure, provide for public safety, and aid community members as necessary.

City personnel will continue to monitor weather watches/warnings and river levels, and will disseminate more information as it becomes necessary. Check the City of Northfield website, KYMN Radio, the Northfield News, and local or national weather services for updates.

Anyone interested in volunteering for sandbagging should contact Northfield Shares at 507-403-9755 or at <http://northfieldshares.org/>

The Northfield Police Department is asking citizens to use caution during this flood/high water event:

- Please do not wade or swim in the Cannon River. Monitor children and do not allow them to approach the river.
- Do not enter streets, parks, or sidewalk areas that have been blocked, taped, or labeled as closed.
- If you encounter flooded streets, do not try to drive into or through the water.

If you observe flooding related issues, please call Dispatch at 507-645-4475 and ask to speak with an On-Duty Officer. For other general questions, please call Chief Monte Nelson at 507-663-9301.