

# Flooding Resources | June/July 2024

When flood waters rise, we rise up as a  
**Community Resource.**



The mission of Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services (DVHHS) is to promote, protect and preserve the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities throughout Cottonwood and Jackson Counties. In response to the flooding both counties have and continue to experience, Public Health has compiled a list of credible resources to share with community members as recovery from disruptive and disastrous flooding begins.

**Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services (DVHHS) — Public Health Unit**

**Jackson Office:** 407 5th Street, Jackson, MN 56143 // (507) 847-4000

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## [Versión en Español](#)

### [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

- [After an Emergency](#)
- [Guidelines for Septic and Onsite Wastewater Systems](#)
- [Sanitation and Wastewater](#)
- [Additional Resources/links](#)

### [City of Jackson](#)

- [Re-entry Information](#)
- [Building Inspections](#)

### [City of Windom](#)

- [Damage Matrix](#)
- [Damage Assessment](#)

### [Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services \(DVHHS\)](#)

- [Community Resource Guide \(coming soon!\)](#)
- [Elderly and Disabled Resource Guide](#)
- [Resource and Referral Guide](#)

### [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#)

- [Mental Health After a Flood](#)
- [Returning Home After A Flood](#)

**Flood Relief Funds** — see [Southwest Initiative Foundation](#)

**Food Resources** — see [Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services \(DVHHS\) Community Resource Guide](#)

### [Minnesota Department of Health \(MDH\)](#)

- [Disaster Behavioral Health and Emergency Preparedness](#)
- [Mold and Moisture](#)

### [Ready.gov | Flooding](#)

- [Turn Around Don't Drown statistics and facts](#)

### [Rebuilding Together Minnesota](#)

- [Flood Impact Relief](#)
- [Cottonwood County Debris Maintenance](#)
- [Jackson County Household Hazardous Waste Disposal](#)

### [Salvation Army](#)

# Flooding Resources | June/July 2024

## [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#)

- Disaster Distress Helpline (DDH) (800) 662-HELP (4357)

## [United Way 2-1-1 of Minnesota](#)

Free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota.

## [University of Minnesota Extension \(UMN Extension\)](#)

- [Flooding](#)
- [Cleaning Up After a Flood](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
  - a. [Sanitation and Wastewater](#)
  - b. [Guidelines for Septic and Onsite Wastewater Systems](#)
  - c. During an emergency
    - i. During an emergency such as a flood, hurricane, or earthquake, reduce the amount of water used by limiting toilet flushing, dishwashing, washing clothes, and showering.
    - ii. Severe flooding can [put drinking water wells at increased risk for contamination](#) from flood water that may contain sewage. Avoid contact with any standing water that may contain sewage.
  - d. After an emergency
    - i. Be aware that flood water may contain sewage. For more information about how to protect yourself and your family, visit [Safety Guidelines: Floods](#).
      1. **Caution!** Do not drink well water until you know it is safe. Use a safe water supply like bottled or treated water (learn how to [make water safe](#)).
  - e. Resources (scroll to bottom of website page)
    - i. CDC. [Potential Sanitation Solutions During an Emergency Response](#)
    - ii. National Environmental Services Center. [First Aid for a Flooded Septic System](#)
    - iii. EPA. [Septic Systems – What to Do After a Flood](#)
    - iv. EPA. [Emergency Response for Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities](#)
    - v. NASD. [Flooded Private Sewage Systems: Safety, Sanitation and Clean-Up Concerns](#)
    - vi. EPA. [Septic \(Onsite\) Systems, Tools and Resources](#)
    - vii. Cornell University. [Water Quality Information for Consumers: Septic Systems and Wastewater](#)
    - viii. Public Works Group. [Video: Demo of Sewer Backflow Prevention Device](#).
    - ix. FEMA. [Install Sewer Backflow Valves](#)
    - x. Water Environment Research Foundation. [Emergency Response Plan Guidance for Wastewater Systems](#)

# Flooding Resources | June/July 2024

*(Continued on next page)*

- **City of Jackson**



## **RE-ENTRY INFORMATION:**

- Residents are encouraged to refrain from entering their property until floodwater is at ground level or lower.
- Contact your insurance provider to see what damage is covered.
- To have electricity turned back on you need an assessment done by an electrician, pass an inspection, get a state inspected certificate, and then sign an affidavit.
- For rental properties that had power shut off, the building is considered uninhabitable. Rental properties require an inspection before occupancy is granted.
- For general re-entry, an inspection is not required but you can request one.
- Any material that was contaminated with floodwater needs to be disinfected. Swimming pool chlorine can be used effectively.
- Please review the safety information provided by FEMA by scanning the QR code below.



FEMA Re-Entry Information

### **Harry Jenness Inspections LLC**

(507)380-4555

Providing free inspections



Red Cross Buckets for Clean Up available at JCC

- [City of Windom](#)

# Flooding Resources | June/July 2024

- a. [Damage Matrix and Damage Assessment](#)
- **[DVHHS Resource Guide](#)**
  - a. [Resource and Referral Guide](#)
  - b. [Elderly and Disabled Resource and Referral Guide](#)
- **[FEMA](#)**
  - a. [Mental Health After a Flood](#)
    - i. Resources and links
  - b. [Returning Home After a Flood](#)
    - i. The initial damage caused by a flood is not the only risk. Standing floodwater can also spread [infectious diseases](#), bring chemical hazards, and cause injuries.
    - ii. Look for more information on flood recovery at [Coping with a Flood \(la.gov\)](#), [Floods | Ready.gov](#), and [Flood Safety Tips \(cdc.gov\)](#).
- **[Minnesota Department of Health \(MDH\)](#)**
  - a. [Disaster Behavioral Health and Emergency Preparedness](#)
    - i. A range of mental health and chemical abuse (behavioral health) problems may surface in the early stages of an emergency situation. These may continue to emerge among the public and among professionals who respond to an event. Addressing these concerns improves the emergency response and the health of the whole community.
  - b. [Mold and Moisture](#)
    - i. Additional resources/links on the MDH website include: MDH Guidelines for Selecting an Indoor Air Quality Consultant
    - ii. [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) Mold](#)
    - iii. [Centers for Disease and Control Prevention \(CDC\) Mold](#)
    - iv. [University of Minnesota Extension Service Moisture in Basements: Causes and Solutions](#)
- **[Minnesota Department of Agriculture](#)**
  - a. Flood Resources and Assistance
- **[Ready.gov](#)**
  - a. Scroll down to “Turn Around, Don’t Drown” for quick stats about flood safety/travel.
- **[Rebuilding Together Minnesota](#)**
  - a. [Flood Impact Relief](#)
  - b. [Cottonwood County Debris Maintenance](#)

# Flooding Resources | June/July 2024

- c. [Jackson County Household Hazardous Waste Disposal](#)
- **Southwest Initiative Foundation**
  - a. Flood Relief Funds — Jackson
  - b. [Flood Relief Funds — Windom](#)
- **[\[American\] Red Cross](#)**
  - a. [Learn how to keep your family safe during a flood, and how to clean up a flooded home.](#)
- **[Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#)**
  - a. The Disaster Distress Helpline (DDH) is the first national hotline dedicated to providing year-round disaster crisis counseling. This toll-free, multilingual, crisis support service is available 24/7 to all residents in the U.S. and its territories who are experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters. (800) 662-HELP (4357)
- **[Salvation Army](#)**
  - a. [Southwest Minnesota](#)
- **[United Way 2-1-1](#)**
  - a. United Way 2-1-1 provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. We're here 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to connect you with the resources and information you need.
- **[University of Minnesota Extension \(UMN Extension\)](#)**
  - a. Cleaning Up After a Flood