



DODGE COUNTY – STATE OF WISCONSIN OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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For Immediate Release

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Dodge County Emergency Management
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Dodge County Emergency Management continues to operate the EOC gathering damage assessment and assisting with residents questions. The main hours of operation of the EOC are 7:30a-4:30p. The EOC phone line, 386-4060, will still be answered 24 hrs. until further notice.

Dodge County Emergency Management and local officials toured hard hit areas of Dodge County with FEMA and SBA representatives. FEMA will submit the preliminary damage assessment to the State in the next few days and the County should be notified by the end of the week if a Presidential Declaration has been made for Dodge County. When notification is received a media release will be compiled providing the citizens with additional information and instructions.

Disposal of damaged furniture, garbage, and used sandbags should be coordinated through local municipalities. Citizens are reminded that it is illegal to dispose of these items along roadsides or at dumpsters that are owned by private parties. Attached is also an informational sheet regarding the proper disposal of used sandbags.

The County still has roads closed and citizens are not to drive on a closed road due to the water level and the safety hazards that are present.

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Emergency
Management

Planning

Response

Recovery

Mitigation

Emergency Planning &
Community Right-to-
Know Act

Hazmat

Homeland Security

Local Emergency
Planning Committee

Citizen Corps

INFORMATION ON DISPOSAL OF SAND BAGS 06/17/08

Over the last few weeks tens of thousands of sand bags have been used by cities, villages, townships and private residents to hold back flood waters. As the situation stabilizes, these sand bags will need to be disposed of.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) exempts clean soil from the solid waste codes. Any disposal that involves removing the sand from the sandbags and properly disposing (land filling, recycling, or reusing) of the bags and the placing of the sand in an area where fill placement is not prohibited by DNR codes.

Additional caution should be used with sand that has come into contact with flood waters as it may contain more bacteria than normal soil. This sand should not be placed in playgrounds, sandboxes or other areas where there is a chance of direct human contact. However these bacteria will dissipate with time and exposure to the elements, so this sand could be stockpiled for use for winter road sand, fill, concrete or mortar sand, or other uses.

Filled sand bags that are fully biodegradable (jute, burlap, or other biodegradable materials) can also be disposed of again by land filling, recycling or reusing. Filled plastic or non-biodegradable should be disposed of at a municipal solid waste land fill or a construction/demolition landfill. Residents interested in this disposal method need to contact the landfill before taking the filled bags there to make sure that they accept sandbags and to get a cost estimate for disposal.

Filled sandbags of both biodegradable and non-biodegradable material and may be reused at other flood sites and may be reused to construct permanent earthen structures. These sandbags are not considered waste when they are reused in a legitimate project within a reasonable amount of time and are not stockpiled for a long period of time prior to use.

The above disposal methods do not apply for sandbags contaminated with petroleum products, transformer oil, or other products subject to DNR regulations. Information on disposal of sandbags known to be contaminated with petroleum products, transformer oil, or other regulated contaminants can be obtained by contacting you DNR waste management or checking their website <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/contacts/solid.htm> .