



Flood Update

Chippewa River Update

Wednesday, May 27, 2015, 1:00 p.m.

At 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 27, 2015, the Chippewa River gauge at Grand Avenue in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, read 764.5, which is approximately eight and one-half (8.5) feet below the flood stage gauge reading of 773. Lower sections of the Chippewa River Trail in the city of Eau Claire have been closed behind the Hobbs Ice Center and the Haas Fine Arts Building near the University Foot Bridge.

The National Weather Service is forecasting the Chippewa River to crest with a gauge reading of 767.2 at Grand Avenue over the weekend. At this gauge reading, some of the lower sections of the Chippewa River Trail and lower areas of Owen Park may experience flooding. This projection may change based on actual precipitation in the upper Chippewa River watershed or due to operational activities by hydro-electric projects along the Chippewa River and its tributaries.

Flood waters can generate stronger faster currents. Extreme caution should be exercised by persons using the rivers for boating, canoeing, kayaking, shore-side fishing, tubing, swimming, wading, or activities near the water. Hazards involving high water levels, strong currents, floating or submerged wood debris or trees, and obscured pilings are present on the Chippewa River.

The City will continue to monitor the river closely and report information as it is obtained. Residents along or near the river are also asked to monitor nearby river conditions in order to have as much advanced warning of those changes. Information is available on the City web site at www.eauclairewi.gov and on the Public Works Message Line at (715) 839-6002. For further information about this news release or river elevations, please contact the City of Eau Claire, Department of Public Works at (715) 839-4934.

For Immediate Release

May 27, 2015

1:00 p.m.