City of Eau Claire

Department of Community Services

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Chippewa River Update

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

The current rain and snow melt in the upper Chippewa River watershed will cause increased runoff passing through the Chippewa River system and rising river gauge readings in Eau Claire.

At 1 p.m. today the Chippewa River gauge at Grand Avenue read 762 feet. This is 10 feet below the downtown flood stage of 773 feet.

The current crest projection is 768 feet on Monday. As the river rises it will enter our Action stage and, as a safety measure, the following areas of will be closed:

- Chippewa River Trail behind the UW-Eau Claire Fine Arts Building
- Chippewa River Trail at the boat landing behind Hobbs Ice Arena

The City will continue to monitor the river closely and may close additional areas of the trail as necessary for safety and will provide information and updates as necessary.

What Residents Can Do

Stay Safe

Flood waters can contain debris and generate currents that are stronger, faster, and more unpredictable than normal conditions which can cause unstable bank conditions and make recreational use of the river unsafe.

Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around, Don't Drown! Just six inches of moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away. Stay off of bridges over fast-moving water.

Stay Informed

Sign up for Rave Alerts through Smart911 – a free service that will provide emergency messages to you via text, recorded message, email, or all three. Visit Smart911.com and click "Sign up today".

Get email updates through the City of Eau Claire website at EauClaireWI.gov. Under "Our City" look for e-Notifications.

Further information is available on the City's website at www.eauclairewi.gov or contact the City of Eau Claire, Community Services Department at 715-839-4649.

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