



OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

3500 NORTH APRON AVENUE
ATWATER, CA 95301
OFFICE (209) 385-7548
FAX (209) 725-0174

NANCY B. KOERPERICH
Director
(209) 966-3622

MARK LAWSON
Deputy Director-Operations
(209) 385-7450

JEREMY RAHN
Deputy Director-Administration
(209) 385-7548

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Mike North 209.617.1596

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UPDATE: STORM IMPACTS AND RESOURCES

MERCED – Another storm system is expected to impact Merced County beginning late Wednesday night, and residents need to be prepared for potential flood impacts.

Local emergency crews are using the current break in the storms to be proactive by removing debris from local waterways, repairing levee breaks and preparing sandbags. Residents can prepare by: Clearing out gutters and culverts around homes, preparing sandbags if necessary, and signing up for the Merced County Emergency Alert System. Please follow all emergency signage and don't drive on flooded roadways.

High flows along the Merced and San Joaquin rivers are anticipated to continue in the coming days, with significant impacts to the northwest-side of Merced County. Residents are urged to remain clear of any waterways affected by recent storms.

RESOURCE REMINDERS:

- Resource Center at Le Grand Fire Station: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017
- Merced County Office of Emergency Services 24-hour information Line: **209-385-7379**
- Any impacts to the agricultural community can be reported by calling the on-duty biologist at the Merced County Agricultural Commissioner's Office during normal business hours: **209-385-7431**
- Flood Safety Checklist: <http://web2.co.merced.ca.us/pdfs/news/2017/Flood-Safety-Checklist.html>
- Residential wells affected by floodwaters need to be disinfected before they can be safely used again. For information on well disinfection, follow this link: www.countyofmerced.com/disinfectingwells
- Information on mold/moisture in the home (California Department of Public Health): http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/IAQ/Documents/MMIMH_English_201610.pdf
- Information on restoring flooded buildings (Federal Emergency Management Act): http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/environmental_health/eoha/pdf/fema_initialrestorationfloodbldg.pdf
- Red Cross:
National Hotline **1-855-891-7325** (English and Spanish)
Fresno Hotline **1-559-455-1000 ext. 6601**

Sandbags will remain available in the Counties and Cities. Visit www.countyofmerced.com for sandbag information. To sign up for Merced County emergency alerts, visit www.countyofmerced.com/alert.

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For more information regarding Merced County, please visit our website at www.countyofmerced.com