
From:
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To:
Subject: update

Date: 8/21/2026

Time: 9:30 AM

Subject: Wayne County Update #8

WAYNE COUNTY FLOOD RECOVERY UPDATE

Recovery efforts continue across Wayne County following the historic flooding. While significant progress is being made, several communities and residents continue to deal with the impacts of this disaster.

Here are this morning's important updates:

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED

We continue to need volunteers to assist residents with cleanup and recovery.

Typically, we have seen approximately 30–35 volunteers each day, but we have the ability to put 50 or more volunteers to work throughout affected areas.

International Disaster Emergency Services (IDES) is coordinating organized volunteer operations and can currently coordinate up to 50 volunteers per day.

If you can give a few hours of your time, we need your help.

 Register to volunteer:

<https://ides.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/>

Once registered, volunteers will be connected with coordinators who will provide assignments and instructions.

 Please do not self-deploy into affected neighborhoods. Using the organized volunteer process allows us to match volunteers with residents who need assistance while keeping cleanup operations coordinated and safe.

WILLIAMSBURG – GROUNDWATER FLOODING CONTINUES

While much of the visible surface flooding throughout Wayne County has receded, Williamsburg continues to experience flooding related to the elevated underground water table.

Pumping operations remain underway as groundwater continues to create flooding concerns within the community.

A DNR hydrologist was on site yesterday to evaluate conditions and explain how the natural groundwater table has risen following the tremendous amount of rainfall received across the area.

Additional firefighters from outside the community have also responded to Williamsburg to assist with pumping operations. Sheltering supplies have been provided to support those firefighters as this work continues.

This is an important distinction: the surface floodwaters may have receded, but the groundwater flooding in Williamsburg is still an ongoing situation.

WE NEED EVERYONE TO REPORT THEIR DAMAGE

As damage assessments continue, we are finding that some residents and businesses still have not reported their flood damage.

If you sustained damage, please report it. Even if you believe someone already knows about your property, we need your report.

These reports are critical because they help Wayne County and the State of Indiana document the scope and financial impact of this disaster. The information collected helps provide FEMA with a more complete picture of what happened throughout our communities.

BUSINESS OWNERS:

Businesses should NOT report damage through Indiana 2-1-1.

HOMEOWNERS & RENTERS AND BUSINESS OWNERS:

If you sustained flood-related damage and have not reported it, please report your damage through Indiana 2-1-1 and report damage directly to Wayne County Emergency Management Agency:

➡ Wayne County EMA Damage Report:

<https://form.jotform.com/262253740458055>

Please help us spread the word. If you know a neighbor, family member, friend or business owner who sustained damage, ask them if they have reported it.

🌐 FLOOD RECOVERY RESOURCES

Wayne County has established a centralized webpage where residents can find flood recovery information, important updates and available resources.

➡ Wayne County Flood Recovery Resources:

https://waynecounty.in.gov/ema/emergency_resources.php

This page will continue to be updated as new information and resources become available.

❤️ NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Throughout this response and recovery, we have witnessed the incredible resiliency of our Wayne County communities.

We have seen first responders working long hours, volunteers showing up ready to work, churches and organizations stepping forward to help, businesses providing resources, and an incredible outpouring of donations and support.

Most importantly, we continue to see neighbors helping neighbors.

Recovery from a disaster of this magnitude doesn't happen overnight, but every volunteer, every donation, every cleanup crew and every person who checks on a neighbor moves our communities another step forward.

This is what Hoosier Hospitality is all about.

To everyone who has volunteered, donated, responded, provided resources or simply helped a neighbor — THANK YOU!