



## Office of the Mayor

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# Sand and ready-to-fill bags available to City of Madison Residents

## City of Madison, County officials monitor lake levels as more rain forecast

Lake levels for Lake Monona and Mendota have stabilized over the last few days but remain high. Lake level as of Friday morning on Lake Monona was less than six inches below the 100-year flood elevation, and Lake Mendota was less than two feet under the 100-year mark. More information and updates on lake levels are available on [Dane County's website](https://lwr.dane.gov/Lake-Levels) By clicking this link, you will be leaving the City of Madison website., (<https://lwr.dane.gov/Lake-Levels>). By clicking this link, you will be leaving the City of Madison website.

Many areas in the city that drain to Lake Monona and Starkweather Creek have a ground elevation approximately three feet higher than the current lake level on Lake Monona. As Lake Monona rises, the underground storm sewer system will not function efficiently as lake water inundates the system. Rising water will impact the storm sewer's ability to drain water away and if the water is too high, flooding and standing water may occur.

Madison residents in flood prone areas may be able to protect their property with free sand and bags provided by the City at the following locations:

- Engineering Service Building - 1600 Emil Street
- Olin Park Parking Lot - 1155 Olin-Turville Court
- Olbrich Park Boat Launch Parking Lot - 3527 Atwood Avenue
- Spring Harbor School Parking Lot - 1918 Norman Way
- Tenney Park Beach Parking Lot - 1254 Sherman Avenue
- Thut Park - 2630 Nana Way
- Warner Park Beach Parking Lot - 1101 Woodward Drive

Residents are advised to bring their own shovel to assist with loading sand into the bags.

### General Flooding Mitigation and Preparedness Tips:

- Have access to resources to reliably obtain weather information and receive flooding alerts if they are issued (i.e. NOAA weather radio, TV, social media, access to weather apps or other internet resources)
- Have an emergency kit with the essentials (i.e. minimum of 3-7 days of nonperishable food items and water for both you *and your pets*, battery-powered radio, extra batteries, charging devices, flashlights, tools, extra clothing, basic medical supplies etc.)
- Clear out essential property in basements or known-flooding locations
- Turn off utilities in flood-prone areas if safe to do so when a flood is imminent
- Move indoor valuables to higher elevations or floors
- Store essential information in waterproof containers (i.e. medical documents and immunization records, insurance information, passports, IDs, social security cards, etc.)
- Remove debris and other objects from storm drains and gutters

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- Consider buying a battery-powered sump pump
- Remember to “Turn Around, Don’t Drown!”
- Know that the ground is saturated and lake levels are high so small amounts of additional rainfall can cause problems, especially in low-lying locations or areas known to frequently flood
- Check that your sewer backflow preventer is functioning. If you experience sewer backups, contact Engineering Operations at 608-266-4430. Please see the [Sewer Maintenance brochure](#) *PDF This PDF will open in a new window.* for additional information. Consider adding insurance for sanitary sewer backups to your policy which is available through many insurance companies.

For additional information, please see [FEMA’s How to Prepare for a Flood](#) *PDF This PDF will open in a new window.* and [FEMA’s Protecting Your Home and Property from Flood Damage](#) *PDF This PDF will open in a new window..*

## Contacts

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