



Department of Public Works

## Engineering Division

Robert F. Phillips, P.E., City Engineer

---

City-County Building, Room 115  
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703  
Phone: (608) 266-4751  
Fax: (608) 264-9275  
[engineering@cityofmadison.com](mailto:engineering@cityofmadison.com)  
[www.cityofmadison.com/engineering](http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering)

For Immediate Release

Sept. 22, 2019

### **City crews monitor flash flooding potential, lake levels after heavy rain**

City Engineering crews are on standby after heavy rainfall in the last several hours in the Madison area.

Storm sewers in the lower areas of the Isthmus are less efficient due to high lake levels. Some ponding of water on the streets occurred this morning and a short street closure on East Johnson Street at North First Street was necessary. Rain is expected to continue and another period of heavier rain is expected this afternoon. If heavier rain does occur, flooding on our streets is possible again, especially in low lying areas that drain to the Yahara River or Lake Monona.

Engineering crews will remain on standby until the threat of flooding has diminished.

Residents and visitors should remain cautious when driving and should report significant flooding to City Engineering Operations 608-266-4430.

Never drive through flooded streets. Stay calm, find higher ground, and take some time to think about your route options. It is not worth risking your life or damaging your car. Street flooding will typically recede quickly after the intense rains have stopped.

Residents should plan ahead if possible:

- Don't drive through standing water.
- When intense rain is predicted, avoid parking in low lying areas of the Isthmus and the near east side.
- Avoid parking in other areas known to have flooded in the past.
- Know where the nearest [sandbag fill locations](#) are.
- Visit the [City's flooding website](#) for other resources.
- Report flooding when possible on the [flooding form](#).

It is the City's priority to keep residents safe and keep the community connected with updates as crews continue to monitor the potential for flooding.

#### **Media Inquiries:**

Hannah Mohelnitzky, City of Madison Engineering Division  
Public Information Officer  
608-669-3560  
[hmohelnitzky@cityofmadison.com](mailto:hmohelnitzky@cityofmadison.com)

###