



SALINE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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TO: NEWS MEDIA

DATE: May 20th, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Saline County faces the potential for record flooding along Mulberry Creek near Salina and the Smoky Hill River near New Cambria. The Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners has signed a Disaster Declaration in anticipation of the flooding. Here is the most current information on the predictions:

Mulberry Creek: Cresting of the river at 27.8 feet is expected to occur Tuesday, May 21st around noon. At 27.8 feet, Roads flood up to 3 ft of water in northern Salina, mostly around Stimmel Road and south from 9th Street to Ohio Street. Within that area, expect over 200 homes and businesses to become flooded. Other flooding may occur north of I-70 from 9th Street to Ohio Street. The westbound entrance ramp onto I-70 from 9th Street will most likely be flooded.

Smoky Hill River near New Cambria: Major flooding is expected the afternoon of Tuesday, May 21st with a projected crest at 34 feet. At 33 feet, Expect roads surrounding and within the city of New Cambria to be flooded and along with roads in the vicinity of the river. In addition, expect widespread flooding of low-lying areas. With the projections, we are encouraging residents to make appropriate plans now to be prepared to evacuate flood prone areas if conditions warrant. City and County staff are working on resource and operations plans in anticipation of this event. Here are key points for residents to be aware of:

- The County does not have sandbags on hand. We are working to obtain some.
- The County is working on a shelter location for both people and pets that evacuate. Once those locations and hours of operation are confirmed, it will be released.
- The City of New Cambria is making recommendations to residents to voluntarily evacuate in anticipation of the flooding.
- County Staff and other Key Staff members are working together to issue road closures and important emergency information to residents as needed.
- Power outages can be expected with rising flood waters.

Additional press releases will be issued as more information becomes available.