

As you know Llano County and many of its residents have experienced significant damage to their property from the high volume of water flowing down the Llano River creating flooding and destruction in its path and raising lake levels.

I have been constantly involved with our Office of Emergency Management since early Tuesday morning with a focus on rescue and recovery and restoring services. The county is now starting to focus on early recovery of property.

Our county and city first responders have done an incredible job saving and protecting lives as well as many first responders from neighboring counties and the State who have provided tremendous support. Our thanks to them all.

During this busy time it is difficult to provide updates and information on the specifics of this disaster but the county has provided as much as it could to the media and on facebook through regular press conferences and updates on its facebook page.

To view current, past and future updates on facebook please visit "Llano County Office of Emergency Management". This shows videos of press conferences by Llano County Judge Mary Cunningham and Emergency Management Coordinator Ron Anderson and well as updates and information on the current status, weather and what services are available to those impacted. Please review this facebook page for current information.

Tragically one fatality was discovered as an apparent result of the flood. The next of kin has been notified but no information has been released at this time. Our prayers are with this family.

The following is a summary of some of the past and current status of the flood:

- The Llano River has dropped from a high of almost 40 feet to 7 feet now but more rain is expected that could increase this level.
- The 2900 bridge across the Llano River to Kingsland has collapsed. The Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) has already stated that it is an emergency need to rebuild and are working on plans and funding to fast track to rebuild the bridge but it could still likely take up to 2 years.
- Water supply in the City of Llano and in Kingsland was not available for a few days but the City of Llano is now restored with no boiling required. Kingsland is also restored but boiling is required and have advised to use water sparingly. Bottled water is available at the First Baptist Church in Kingsland and Llano Junior High School.
- AT & T phone service was disrupted when the cables were cut or damaged from the flood and AT & T are arranging portable "Cell On Wheels" (COW) mobile towers to be brought in to provide some service in Granite Shoals, Kingsland and at the Llano County East Annex near Fuzzys Corner at RR1431 and Hwy 29. These COWs provide some service but the range is limited.

- County phone service and internet was down but was restored Thursday afternoon in most county offices.
- The Llano County Sheriff Office phone system was disrupted and if 911 calls do not go through they can be reached by any one of the following numbers 512-482-4341 or 512-482-4342 or 512-369-0741 or 512-369-0742.
- Shelters were established throughout the county but are now being wound down due to limited current use other than for out of county responders.
- Llano County is accepting monetary donations of support but not the donation of items at this time. Donation can be made to the Llano County Chamber of Commerce. Make checks payable to "Llano Chamber" in the memo line place "Llano Flood" and mail to Llano Chamber 100 Train Station Dr. Llano TX 78643. For credit card payment call 325-247-5354.
- Facilities will be set up to receive donated items and the public will be advised of what items are needed and where to donate. Clothing will not be requested.
- Debris removal is a major concern and plans are being made to provide a disposal service for curbside pick up of household items. In preparation for this pick up it is requested that homeowners separate items into piles of the following categories - electronics - large appliances - hazardous waste - vegetative debris - construction debris and household garbage.
- The City of Horseshoe Bay has already made arrangements for curbside debris pick up.
- River and lake front debris disposal is not yet determined and will be addressed with LCRA.
- Some county roads are closed and can be located at conditions.drivetexs.org/current/ Low water crossing information can be accessed at ATXFloods.com
- Victim Assistant Centers and Multi Agency Resource Centers (MARC) will be established for those in need to gain information of where assistance is available. MARC will be open Oct 22 & 23 at the JLK Event Center 2200 W Ranch Road Llano TX 78643 and Oct 24 & 25 at the Kingsland Community Center 3451 Rose Hill Dr. Kingsland TX 78639.
- FEMA will assist when Governor Abbott makes a Declaration of Disaster to President Trump and the declaration is approved. Certain loss thresholds are to be determined to be met before this is declared. FEMA will then assist individuals and county losses to certain limits.
- Senator Ted Cruz, Senator Dawn Buckingham, State Representative Terry Wilson and Congressman Williams visited Llano and Burnet Counties on Wednesday October 17th to view the damage of the flood and held a press conference, together with the Commissioner Courts of Llano and Burnet Counties, on the Kingsland side of the 2900 bridge that is now collapsed. They expressed concern and support to all residents.
- For questions please contact the county hotline at 325-305-0964

This is a tragic event for our county but be assured that the county, cities and multiple state and federal agencies are working hard to provide assistance.

In the meantime be aware of the danger of rising water with the potential of more rain and protect yourself and your loved ones and stay safe.

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