

*****MEDIA RELEASE*****MEDIA RELEASE*****MEDIA RELEASE*****

CANNON FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 16, 2012 7:45am

ISSUED BY: Chief Jeff McCormick

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River Flooding

Media Release:

As of 7:30am on June 16, 2012 the river level of Cannon River has fallen 8 feet from crest which occurred on June 15, 2012 at approximately 6:00am. The water at crest has an elevation of approximately 798 feet above sea level; it normally has an elevation around 776 feet above sea level during most of the summer. The Little Cannon River is less than 12 inches from being back within its banks.

The Cannon Falls Police Department will continue to monitor river levels on both rivers until they return to within the banks. At this time light rain has fallen since 6:30am, but does not appear at this time that the rain today would be significant enough to cause the levels to increase. The weather for the next several days will be monitored to determine if any rain events likely to increase the river levels would occur.

The damage to City property is extensive and it will be several days before a full inventory of damage can be made and costs determined. The cost of damage to private property also still has to be determined.

Media release updates no longer will be issued for this event, unless a significant rain fall event occurs within the next 48 hours. Any event occurring after that time would be done as a new media release.

End of update.

PREVIOUS RELEASE: 4:00pm June 15, 2012

As of 4:00pm on June 15, 2012 the river level of the Cannon River continues to drop steadily. It has lowered about 37 inches in the crest level. The Little Cannon River has dropped about 55 inches from the crest level. The crest occurred about 6am. The roadways that had been flooded within the city have been reopened. MN DOT reopened highway 20 at approximately 11am.

The amount of damage is significant, but will not be fully determine all damages until the rivers have returned to within the banks. Several large trees were toppled and washed into the foot

bridges crossing the Little Cannon River. One of the foot bridges appears to have been washed off the footings.

Flooding occurred to both residential and business properties. In addition to river flooding there were reports of basement flooding from rain water and foundation damage to walls. The Salvation Army has provided the City of Cannon Falls with cleanup kits. The can be obtained from the Police or Fire Departments.

Below are photos of the damage that occurred.



Minnieska Park Foot Bridge Area



Minnieska Park Foot Bridge



Minnieska Park Foot Bridge



Looking South from Minnieska Foot Bridge Area



Two River Park Foot Bridge



Lower Hannah's Bend Park

END OF UPDATE

PREVIOUS RELEASE: 6:15am

As of 6:00am on June 15, 2012 the river level of the Cannon River continues to rise and is currently above the levels experienced during the September 2010 flood. Since 2:00am the little cannon has risen about 39 inches. During the same time period the Cannon River has risen 28 inches. Local streets have been closed due to being covered by water. MN DOT has closed Highway 20 due to water covering the roadway.

The City has notified residents to evacuate residences that are adjacent to closed roads due to flooding. Sandbagging has occurred at several locations to attempt to limit property damage to structures.

The flooding conditions are being monitored continually and residents will be advised if conditions change.

End of update.