

Graves County's state of emergency prepares for flooding

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After severe inclement weather persisted starting Wednesday, April 2, Graves County declared a state of emergency ahead of the mass flooding projected for Saturday, April 5.

Placing the area at a high-risk level for flash flooding, WPSD Local 6 meteorologists predicted over six inches of rainfall through Sunday, April 6, compounding the six inches of accumulation from earlier in the week.

Wary of traveling conditions, both Mayfield Independent Schools and Graves County Schools canceled in-person classes for Friday, April 4. The same day, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet reported several state road closures due to flooding, including—

- KY 1374/Trace Creek Road, which is between KY 427 and Spence Chapel Road
- KY 2422 between KY 129 and Wingo Road
- KY 408 near Mayfield Creek, which is between KY 1241 and Hopewell Road
- KY 348 between the McCracken-Graves County Line to KY 450
- KY 1820 between Mayfield Creek and McCracken-Graves County Line
- KY 1283 from Frazier Road to KY 58
- KY 483 between KY 131 and KY 427

Graves County Emergency Management director Tracey Warner said though flooding had receded, the department was urgently preparing through a fully operational disaster center at CFSB Bank.

She said emergency response would be conducted through this hub, notably evacuations. Highly encouraged to cooperate, residents of affected areas would be notified as first responders transported them to safety.

"They've allowed us



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A field near Mayfield Creek was flooded.



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Though flooding on some roads like Trace Creek had somewhat receded, OEM director Tracey Warner said the department was urgently preparing for Saturday's flash flooding.

to use their upstairs, so we're going to set that up later today," Warner said. "We did have some evacuations overnight. By 3:30 this morning, everybody could either return home or stay with family and friends. We did put a few in hotels."

Before Saturday's flash flooding, Warner reported no major accidents, beside some hydroplaning incidents that required water rescues. Otherwise, some vehicles stalled in the high water, but drivers were able to resolve the issue without emergency assistance

Noting that 12 inches of water can overtake a vehicle, Warner echoed the sentiment of "Turn Around, Don't Drown." Along with not attempting to tread treacherous flood roads, Warner advised the community to refrain from driving altogether unless absolutely necessary, in that case to exercise extreme caution.

Additionally, she said to be prepared to seek shelter in higher ground, assemble an emergency supply kit, keep your phone charged, document damage for FEMA or

insurance purposes, and consistently monitor the forecast.

Warner said weather readiness is especially crucial as the anticipated impact was more volatile than just the typical flood zones, such as central Mayfield near Red



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Mayfield Creek was coursing with an overflow after the mid-week flooding.



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A field adject to KY 131 was deluged after the mid-week flooding.

Duck Creek.

If your house is normally in a flood zone, Warner recommended temporarily staying with family, friends or at a hotel. She also stressed moving vehicles to dry ground.

"If you know an area that's prone to flooding, it's going to flood. But there's also new places, so just keep an eye out," Warner said. "If you want to evacuate and need help, call the Kentucky State Police dispatch center in Graves County. They can get a hold of the right people."

Warner said the community can play a vital part in facilitating

response efforts by heeding warnings and taking the proper personal protective measures.

She said emergency teams would already be overwhelmed with evacuations, so a vigilant community would prevent the stress of possible new scenarios.

“The more the public can help take care of themselves, the more first responders will be able to help the ones who have water in their homes,” Warner said. “When people wait until the last minute, we have 30 people to rescue people from, and it becomes a waiting list.”



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Flooding along Trace Creek Road extended to a nearby construction site.

NOTICE OF LOCAL PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Kentucky Public Service Commission (the "Commission") will conduct a local public hearing at 5:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time on Thursday, April 24, 2025, at the Daviess County Fiscal Court, 212 St. Ann Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42303, for the purposes of hearing public comments on Commission Case No. 2024-00276, regarding Atmos Energy Corporation's application for a general adjustment of rates, approval of tariff revisions and other general relief. This notice is provided in compliance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(2).

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