

PRESSRELEASE

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WEATHER ADVISORY

The Mayor is cautioning citizens to be proactive in planning for anticipation of testing forecasted weather for this weekend. "A flood Watch has been issued by the National Weather Service for Northern Indiana which includes the Michigan City area stated Mayor Oberlie.

Due to ice conditions, the Michigan City Street Department trucks were removed from the streets this morning. This decision was necessary to protect the drivers as well as others who were out as trucks of this size require longer periods to stop and are difficult to control.

John Jones, Director of the City's Emergency Management Agency spoke with Meteorologists from the Syracuse office of the National Weather Service on Friday who reported a forecasted amount of rain fall of between 1" and 2" for the Michigan City area through Saturday. Jones issued the following recommendations; "with the melting snow and expected rain, citizens can take steps to guard against basement flooding. Jones recommends making sure gutters are clear of leaves and debris and working properly. Downspout extensions are a good idea to divert water away from foundations. Citizens can also remove valuable items from basements as a precaution whenever flooding is a possibility. Watch for ice underfoot and do not venture out on ice covered surfaces if possible, especially the elderly and those who have mobility difficulties".

Mayor Oberlie issued the following precautions for citizens. "Please be cautious when traveling this weekend and watch for areas of fog and decreased visibility. City crews will be taking actions to mitigate effects of this weekend's weather. The sanitary district will be cleaning drains around the city so that the water from the melting snow can be removed by the city's storm sewers." Mayor Oberlie also asks residents living near a storm sewer inlet to be vigilant in assisting by clearing drains of debris, snow and ice. "We anticipate that the early melting of snow will be helpful before the rain comes in lessening the impact of any potential flooding hazards. The National Weather Service is more concerned with river flooding then they are with ground saturation flooding but getting tips out to citizens to help prevent any undue water problems are always in order".