



Robert R. Snaza
Sheriff

OFFICE OF THE LEWIS COUNTY SHERIFF

345 W. Main Street
Chehalis, WA 98532-1900
Phone: (360) 748-9286 • Fax: (360) 740-1476 • TDD: (360) 740-1480
www.lewiscountywa.gov/sheriff

"Public Safety through Professional Service"

Wes H. Rethwill
Undersheriff

Bruce F. Kimsey
Field Operations Chief

Kevin F. Hanson
Corrections Chief

Stacy A. Brown
Special Services Chief

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time: December 9, 2015 @ 1100 Hours
Contact: Chief Deputy Stacy Brown
Phone: (360) 740-1303
Release #: 3

Department of Emergency Management Now Accepting Damage Reports

Department of Emergency Management (DEM) is now accepting damage reports from the current weather event (flooding, high winds & landslides).

This damage assessment process is extremely important. If the county is unable to indicate the severity of the damages, there may not be FEMA funding to help our citizens recover their losses. Please encourage everyone to participate!

Impacted residents are asked to call one of the following phone numbers and leave their name and a good contact telephone number. Someone will return the call to gather specifics of their losses:

Lewis County and all other cities as well as the Town of Pe Ell, call 360-740-1152. Damages in the City limits of Centralia should be reported to 360-623-8283

Information needed for the call back includes

Citizens:

- Dollar value of the loss
- Value of the property loss (tax assessment value if property)
- Any insurance coverage

Business:

- Dollar value loss of inventory/building damage
- Insurance
- Was business closed during event (if so, dollar value of losses)

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Released December 9, 2015 @ 0950 Hours
Red Cross to Open Shelter in Packwood

The Red Cross has opened a shelter at the Packwood Community Presbyterian Church located at 12096 U.S. Hwy 12, Packwood.

Community members displaced due to the flood are welcome to seek shelter and food at the church.

###

Released 12-09-15 @ 0600 Hours

Lewis County Sheriff's Office Makes Rescues Overnight

Lewis County Sheriff's Office deputies rescued several people in the east end of the county, starting last night around 1930, and continuing throughout the night.

A family called 911 from their residence on Mountain View Drive in High Valley, Packwood, last night at approximately 1927 hours, asking for help.

A log jam formed in the nearby Cowlitz River, causing the river to reroute, suddenly causing water to flow into their residence.

Deputies rescued another man, shortly thereafter, from a residence in High Valley 4 who had water around his house.

At 0204 hours, deputies rescued another family, surrounded by water, from the 100 block of Firwood Drive North in Randle.

At 0358 hours, deputies rescued a family from Cascade Peaks RV Park, in the 11500 block of Us Hwy 12.

Deputies are now enroute to Maple Grove Road to assist a female in evacuating her residence.

Deputies are utilizing the Sheriff's Office 5-ton truck to effect the rescues.

Water is running down Mountain View Drive, a residential area in High Valley 8. The roadway is completely covered with water and numerous houses have water in and around them.

Numerous residences in High Valley 4, 6, 8 have been evacuated.

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office reminds citizens to be aware of the rising water levels and leave before rescue is necessary.

Also, pay attention to water over the roadway and obey road closed signs.

The leading cause of death during flooding is people being swept into water and becoming trapped in their vehicles.

Citizens are asked to monitor river levels at: <http://rivers.lewiscountywa.gov/> and be prepared for changing conditions.

Road closures can be monitored here: <http://roads.lewiscountywa.gov/>

U.S. HWY 12 at MP 115 to 116.5 in Randle is closed. There is a detour on Silverbrook Road. It is also closed at U.S. HWY 12 at MP 138 (no detour).

There is also a mudslide at MP 183 (Yakima County) closing both lanes of the highway. More information about State Highway closures can be found at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/>.

DOT is enroute to check the Core Bridge in Randle.

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