



City of Harrisonburg
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City Continues Response from Significant Weekend Rainfall

Harrisonburg, Va. – Several departments from the city of Harrisonburg continue assessing damage and cleaning up from the significant amount of rainfall that fell in this area over the weekend.

With an already saturated ground, the city and surrounding areas were inundated with more than seven inches of rain since Thursday. This was measured at the Harrisonburg Fire Department's Station 4 on Rock Street. At the highest rate, an estimated six inches of rain per hour fell in the city. This additional rainfall led to standing water and street closures throughout the city.

First responders answered hundreds of calls for service for water rescues, water covering roadways, removal of water from residences and businesses, and the evacuation of some from their homes.

This series of storms left water standing in areas that have never before flooded, in addition to low-lying areas that see an increase of water often.

"We want members of the community to understand that the amount of rain we have received has been significant," explained Jim Baker, director of Public Works. "While we are still evaluating our facilities and response, it appears as though the infrastructure in place operated as it should, given the amount of rain that it was managing."

Smithland Road is closed, along with the city's Dog Park, due to the amount of water that remains in that area. Crews with the Public Utilities Department are working 12-hour rotating shifts to pump water out of the area to ensure it does not flood and damage the sanitary sewer pump station located in this area.

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The Harrisonburg Fire Department is continuing their work to assist homeowners in pumping water out of their basements as their call volume for emergency incidents allows.

Residents are asked to get rid of standing water from garbage cans, gutters, pool covers, coolers, toys, flower pots, or any other containers where rainwater has collected. The Virginia Department of Health provides additional tips [online](#) to help prevent mosquitoes from living and multiplying around your home or business.

Motorists are reminded to always avoid driving through standing water. The phrase, “turn around, don’t drown” should be kept in mind anytime when approaching standing water in the roadway.

Additional information and the latest news will be posted to the city’s [social media channels](#) as it becomes available.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to almost 55,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



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