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## BERRIEN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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### DIVISION OF BERRIEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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## PRESS RELEASE

Flooding and Power Outages in Southwest Berrien County  
August 11, 2021

### UPDATE:

Due to the continued power outages and flooding in the southwest portion of Berrien County, the Berrien County Emergency Operations Center has been activated again today. Additional storms last night with damaging winds and heavy rain caused the current power outage to be extended for several hours. With the temperatures rising and the potential for higher than normal heat index there have been cooling stations set up at the following locations as of 10:00 AM today.

*New Buffalo Township Public Safety Building – 18959 US-12, New Buffalo MI 49117*

*Michiana Village Hall – 4000 Cherokee Drive, New Buffalo MI 49117*

*Lake Township Hall – 3220 W. Shawnee Road, Bridgman MI 49106*

Each of these locations are open and operational if individuals need to utilize them and get out of the warm conditions or charge cell phones or other electronic devices.

The health and safety of those visiting the cooling centers is a priority. Face masks are recommended for everyone visiting the center, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status. Any individuals experiencing COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to isolate onsite. Those visiting cooling centers are encouraged to take key protective actions such as washing hands often, keeping physical distance from others where possible.

For individuals who have experienced damage due to the flooding the following link is available:

<https://www.berriencounty.org/FormCenter/Emergency-Management-14/Report-Disaster-Damage-66>

If individuals have questions or need assistance for non-emergency issues they are requested to call 2-1-1. We will continue to update information as it becomes available and if other cooling stations become available.

The following roads are still closed at this time due to high water and possible culvert issues under the roadway. Each of these roads may be closed for a considerable amount of time.

*Holden Road – Between Shawnee and Snow Roads*

*California Road – Between Ott Road and Snow Roads*

Several fire departments have been responding to carbine monoxide calls at residences that are using generators without adequate ventilation. We are providing the following link regarding the proper use of generators. Always make sure you have adequate air flow around the generator.

<https://www.cdc.gov/co/generatorsafetyfactsheet.html>

**UPDATE:            8/11/21            11:45 AM**

An additional cooling station has been opened at Lakeshore Public Schools Auditorium. To access this cooling station please use door #10 which is at the north entrance of John Beers Road.

*Lakeshore Public Schools Auditorium – 5771 Cleveland Ave, Stevensville MI 49127*

**UPDATE:            8/11/21            3:15 PM**

The four cooling stations that were activated due to the power outages and the high heat index will be closing at 4:00 PM today. While Indiana Michigan Power continues to work on getting customers power back in service the temperatures have improved and the heat index has been significantly reduced.

Individuals with non-emergency needs are still encouraged to call 2-1-1.