

Local State of Emergency Proclamation

A State of Emergency is hereby declared in the Village of Potsdam for a period of time beginning at 2:00 p.m. on the date of May 4, 2011 and continuing in effect for a period not to exceed five (5) days and ending at 2:00 p.m. on the date of May 9, 2011.

The State of Emergency has been declared due to the emergency conditions produced by:

High water levels in the Racquette River are causing extended periods of response by our emergency services crews and public works departments. This response is resulting in personnel fatigue that requires us to use mutual aid resources from surrounding departments. The duration of this event, which began on Wednesday, April 27th and is expected to continue another week, has made it impossible to respond to the calls to protect property with our forces alone.

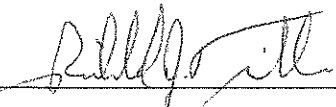
High water levels in the Racquette River are causing a rapidly mounting expense for the Village and it's volunteer emergency services crews due to expenditures of fuel and breakage of equipment from operating over extended periods of time under very difficult conditions. Food and drinks are also being provided to volunteers and are resulting in considerable expense. There is also the likelihood of property damage to private and public buildings along the Racquette River.

High water levels in the Racquette River have caused water to back up into the storm drain system and has resulted in residents of the Canal and Washington Street areas receiving water in their basements requiring pumping from fire and public works crews.

High water in the Racquette River restricted the effluent flow from our waste water treatment plant causing sewer flows into the plant to back-up and causing sewer back-ups in low lying areas along the river.

Such conditions threaten or imperil the public safety of the citizens of this municipality. As Chief Executive of this municipality, I have exercised the authority given to me under New York State Executive Law, Article 2-B, to preserve the public safety and hereby render all required and available assistance vital to the security, well-being and health of the citizens of the community.

I hereby direct the Departments of the Village of Potsdam to take whatever steps necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure and other such emergency assistance as deemed necessary.

Signed: 
MAYOR
Title
5/4/11
Date