



For Immediate Release (Weather Update Day 4)

June 28, 2019

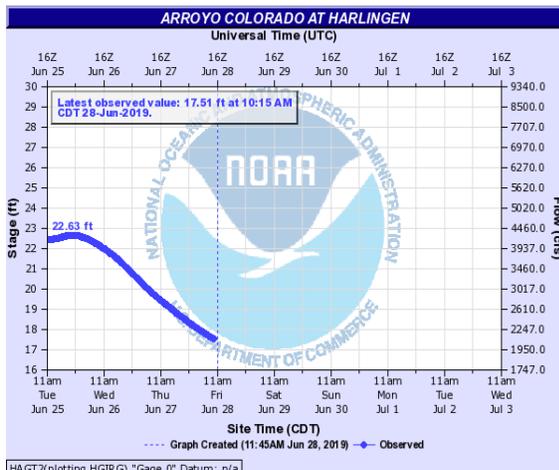
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Water Pumping Operations and Damage Assessment Continue in Harlingen

Harlingen, Texas—City of Harlingen employees continue pumping operations this morning to help neighborhoods where there is still standing water from Monday night’s unexpected rain. The City was pounded with the heavy rainfall that affected the entire Rio Grande Valley on June 24. While much of the standing water in Harlingen receded quickly, several neighborhoods on the northwest side of the City are still flooded. This is where the majority of the pumping operations are taking place.

Crews have been working 12-14 hour shifts to alleviate the flooding as soon as possible. City Manager Dan Serna says they are using Vector Trucks and Gator Pumps to remove the standing water. “The Vector Truck is helping us siphon or vacuum the water out and unfortunately it’s

time consuming because only so much water fits in the truck. Once it’s full we have to drive to a designated location to dump the water and then return to the affected area and set up again and repeat the process over and over until the area is clear. The stationary Gator Pumps also help expedite the water removal and the water level in the Arroyo Colorado continues to decrease so that will help speed up the process too. I am very proud of our staff for all that they’re doing to help our residents.”



News From The City of Harlingen

For two days straight, efforts have been focused on neighborhoods along Bass Boulevard such as Hickory Hills where today most of the streets are drivable. Pumping operations will move next door to the Kiskadee Heights Subdivision that also has standing water in many of the streets of the neighborhood.

City staff reports that most of Stuart Place Road today is drivable with some ponding. Some ponding is still visible and drivers are reminded to never drive through standing water.

Residents that have already started cleanup efforts should place debris in the front curb so that crews can pick up as soon as reasonably possible. Harlingen businesses are invited to take their debris to the City's landfill located at 3700 East Harrison.

Meantime, The Health Department is larviciding standing water and has begun spraying for mosquitoes throughout the City. Residents are encouraged to help by turning over all containers in their yards that hold water such as flower pots, bird baths, and even tires. As a reminder, mosquitoes like to hide in tall grass so everyone is encouraged to cut their grass and if spending time outdoors, they're encouraged to use mosquito repellent and wear long sleeves and pants.

In addition, City staff continues to assess the damages caused by Monday night's rain and has set up an email reporthgn@myharlingen.us where residents can share the damage to their homes along with photos to help the City determine how much damage occurred here. This will help ensure that we meet the threshold necessary required for federal help. We are currently awaiting word from the Federal Government as to whether FEMA help will be available. Texas Governor Greg Abbott has signed a disaster declaration for our area and it has been sent to the President for his approval. We will notify you as soon as more information becomes available.

Meantime residents are encouraged to be on the lookout for scammers who prey on victims affected by weather disasters. Anyone looking to employ services to make repairs should ensure they are hiring a legitimate company.

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