



# Whatcom County Sheriff's Office News Release

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

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## **Residents Asked to Remain Vigilant as Third Rain Event Soaks Region Risks of Flooding and Landslides Remain High**

**WHATCOM COUNTY, WA** – A third atmospheric river is expected to bring heavy rainfall to Whatcom County today, Tuesday, Nov. 30, through Thursday morning. Projections for this storm system show less rainfall than the previous two storms. However, all normal flood and rain water storage areas are full from recent flooding. Elevated rivers and full or overfull water retention ponds, ditches, and flood plains increase the likelihood of both river flooding and surface water flooding.

The threat of landslides is high throughout the region. If you live in a slide-prone area, or are traveling through a geographically steep area, please be vigilant. Remember that landslides can occur both during rain events and several days after the rain has stopped. Call 911 to report a slide that is occurring or has occurred.

Members of the Washington State National Guard are helping with sandbagging, transportation of supplies, and staffing road closed points to prevent drivers from being stranded or needing rescue. PLEASE do not drive past road closed signs – they are for your safety!

Whatcom County Public Works (WCPW) is delivering sand upon request to areas throughout Whatcom County, including to Everson. County crews are also clearing storm drains and assessing damage to the transportation infrastructure. In addition, WCPW is assisting the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) by transporting rock for ongoing repairs to the Timon levee. The USACE has completed interim repairs on the Rainbow Slough and Twin View levees. The USACE also assisted the County with repairs to Truck Road and a temporary access for North Fork Road.

(More...)

**Important Tips to Remember:**

- Call 911 to report any flood-related emergencies. 911 operators have the ability to dispatch Public Works crews, in addition to other first responders such as police and fire departments.
- Call 911 if you believe a landslide has occurred or is occurring.
- Respect all Road Closed signs.
- Follow trusted sources of information. There are rumors that share inaccurate information. Please utilize the following sites as trusted sources of information:
  - The website [www.whatcomcounty.us/flood](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/flood) is a central resource for flood-related information.
  - [Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Facebook Page](#).
  - Official webpages and social media pages for our cities, including [Ferndale](#), [Lynden](#), [Sumas](#), [Everson](#).
  - [Whatcom County Public Works road closures and restrictions webpage](#).
  - WSDOT [road impacts map](#).
  - National Weather Service [local area forecast \(customizable\)](#).

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**Flood Impact Resources**

- To report flood-related damage, regardless of whether or not this is covered by insurance, call 360-788-5311 or use the online damage assessment form to report damage at [www.whatcomcounty.us/damageform](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/damageform).
- Whatcom County has set up a call center for people with limited internet access at 360-788-5303. The call center is staffed daily, from 8am-5pm. Spanish language staff are available Monday-Friday.

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