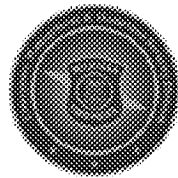

From: Leix, Ron (MSP)
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 10:29 AM
To: Holland, Meegan (GOV); Murray, David (GOV); Heaton, Anna (GOV)
Cc: Banner, Shanon (MSP)
Subject: FW: MSP/EMHSD Media Monitoring Report -- Jan. 5, 2016
Attachments: Media Monitoring Report - 2016.01.05.pdf

FYI -- Situational awareness.

From: MSP-EMHSD-NEWS
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 10:25 AM
To: MSP-EMHSD-NEWS
Subject: MSP/EMHSD Media Monitoring Report -- Jan. 5, 2016



MEDIA MONITORING REPORT

1/5/2016

Issues:

- No issues to report.

Summary:

- Gov. Rick Snyder is considering whether to declare an emergency for Flint's contaminated water a week after apologizing to residents for the state's handling of Flint's water crisis.
- Gov. Rick Snyder is gathering the information needed to formally declare a state of emergency in Flint over the water contamination issue, but in the meantime is "already recognizing this as an emergency," spokesman Dave Murray said Monday.
- Keri Webber, summed up her feelings in as it relates to the city of Flint and its lead contaminated water: "We're terrified."
- A Genesee County judge has clarified a ruling made last month regarding water shutoff notices for Flint residents.
- The Genesee County Health department estimates 40 percent of homes have not yet installed the filters.
- About 1,200 workers are taking advantage of the relatively mild winter to build the final portion of a new pipeline to bring water from Lake Huron to communities including Flint.
- Bryn Mickle, Flint Journal/MLive editor, talks with Rachel Maddow about why his organization is calling for a federal investigation, including subpoena power, of what the Rick Snyder administration knew, and when, about the problems with lead and the new water supply to Flint.
- Nancy Kaffer opines about the state apology and that the resignation over Flint water is the first step.
- The recent scandal over lead-poisoning in the water in Flint prompted many of our communities to take a closer look at the issue. According to recent data, West Michigan neighborhoods are home to even higher levels of lead poisoning in kids than Flint.

- A former emergency management professional suspects levees are causing the Mississippi River to flood.
- With the country seemingly in a heightened state of alert, Michigan State Police are reminding local residents that they can play a critical role with the newly unveiled "If you see something, say something" campaign.

Analysis:

- Heavy coverage about Genesee County's request for a Governor's declaration.
- Concern about Flint residents obtaining the filters they need.
- Will continue to monitor the situation.

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FLINT WATER

Snyder weighs declaring water emergency in Flint

The Detroit News, January 4, 2016

Gov. Rick Snyder is considering whether to declare an emergency for Flint's contaminated water a week after apologizing to residents for the state's handling of Flint's water crisis.

But Michigan faces hurdles to getting federal relief, including forgiveness for state loans to Flint involving drinking-water infrastructure improvements that are covered by federal rules.

Even before any official declaration can be made, Snyder's office said Monday that state officials "are recognizing this as an emergency and are working with city and county leaders to coordinate efforts, streamline communication and tap all available resources at the state's control."

Board declares state of emergency in Flint water crisis

Detroit Free Press, January 4, 2016

Gov. Rick Snyder is gathering the information needed to formally declare a state of emergency in Flint over the water contamination issue, but in the meantime is "already recognizing this as an emergency," spokesman Dave Murray said Monday.

Murray made his comment after the Flint Journal reported the Genesee County Board of Commissioners declared a state of emergency Monday in Flint.

The board's action follows an emergency declaration by Flint Mayor Karen Weaver, who said she plans to meet this week with Snyder.

Specifics of the request are being worked out, but plans call for dealing with causes and effects of lead contamination. It's also part of the process for requesting federal assistance.

Emergency declaration for Flint headed to Gov. Snyder's desk

WJRT-TV 12 in Flint, January 4, 2016

An emergency declaration is heading to the Governor's desk.

The Genesee County Board of Commissioners signed off on the order Monday morning to try to secure federal money for Flint's fight on lead.

By declaring a state of emergency, city and county officials hope to secure federal funding to assist with the water emergency. The number they're asking for right now is \$45 million from Washington.

Mother concerned, angry over continuing water crisis

WNEM-TV 5, January 4, 2016

Keri Webber, summed up her feelings in as it relates to the city of Flint and its lead contaminated water: "We're terrified."

The mother of two daughters is fearful of what the future might bring.

"My girls are 15 and 20 and very close to their next birthday. We have no idea what this means long term for the reproduction," Webber said.

The emotions this family feels on a daily basis is over flowing

It started when experts discovered high levels of lead in the drinking water flowing from the tap at houses throughout this city. Webber said the added insult is paying for that water.

"Not even offended, I am angry. Our water bill last month was \$240 for what?" Webber said.

Webber's youngest daughter is 15. Victoria has had extreme complications due to lead poisoning, while her oldest Stephanie, 20, appears lead free. At least for now.

As a mother she wonders what will happen to them in a few years after having consumed lead-laced water?

"I know. There aren't words. We have fought for these kids," Webber said. "We didn't have these kids easy, it took us five years, protected them at every turn and handed them poison in a glass."

Flint water customers with overdue water bills, will now get more notice before a shutoff

WJRT-TV 12 in Flint, January 4, 2016

A Genesee County judge has clarified a ruling made last month regarding water shutoff notices for Flint residents.

Circuit Judge Archie Hayman is NOT blocking the city from issuing them for customers delinquent in paying bills since September.

That's when lower water and sewer rates were put into place after his ruling that deemed a 35-percent increase, illegal.

It's all tied to a class-action lawsuit against the city - involving Flint residents who believe they were wrongly over-charged.

Attorney Val Washington, who is representing them in the case, says the Judge is instead, requiring customers be given MORE notice - 90 days - before the city takes action with stopping service.

Notices began going out again last month.

Flint water filter use is low

WJRT-TV 12 in Flint, January 4, 2016

There's disturbing information that three months after a campaign began to make free water filters available to fight lead in Flint, many homes still do not have them.

The Genesee County Health department estimates 40 percent of homes have not yet installed the filters.

Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha is the Hurley Medical Center pediatrician who discovered high lead levels in Flint children. She says too many parents are not making the effort to install the filters that can block lead in drinking water.

Hanna-Attisha says last month, all 54 families checked through a health program related to lead said they didn't have water filters in their homes.

We checked with adults picking up students at a Flint elementary school to see if they had filters in their homes.

"We're planning on it today because we just recently got it. The majority of people I know don't have them hooked up. Maybe they're just lazy," said Sameika Clayton.

"Well, I kind of just got mine because everyone was getting theirs in a certain order, or I couldn't really take off from work to go get it, so I just got mine," said Queda Wright.

"I got one just to keep the water pure even though we still drink bottled water," said Lemeer Bell.

You can pick up free water filters and replacement cartridges at two GCCARD offices in Flint and at the DHS offices in downtown Flint.

Call 211 for information on how you can receive a free water filter

Work continues on new Michigan water pipeline

Detroit Free Press, January 5, 2016

OREGON TOWNSHIP, Mich. — About 1,200 workers are taking advantage of the relatively mild winter to build the final portion of a new pipeline to bring water from Lake Huron to communities including Flint.

The Flint Journal reports the \$285 million Karegnondi Water Authority project is on track.

Crews are burying the 66-inch-diameter pipeline on a path that starts with an intake at Lake Huron. Sections under construction include parts of Sanilac and Lapeer counties. A \$71 million water treatment plant is being built in Oregon Township.

Flint switched from Detroit's water system in 2014 to Flint River water in a cost-cutting move ahead of the Karegnondi project's completion. Residents complained about the taste, smell and appearance, and children were found to have elevated blood-lead levels. Flint returned to Detroit's system in October.

Kaffer: State apology, resignation over Flint water first step

Detroit Free Press, January 5, 2016

In the quiet week between Christmas and New Year's Day, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality chief Dan Wyant resigned, followed quickly by department spokesman Brad Wurfel.

And Gov. Rick Snyder — finally — apologized for what happened in Flint.

For 18 months, Flint residents were exposed to lead-contaminated drinking water, after the city — while under state oversight and with MDEQ approval — began to draw its drinking water from the Flint River. Since the switch, an increasing percentage of Flint kids have elevated blood-lead levels. Lead poisoning causes irreversible behavioral and developmental difficulties.

So this apology, and these resignations, represent a sea change. But it's not enough.

For months, Snyder and his MDEQ attempted to dodge the reality that state policy wrought in the City of Flint. As reports, based not only on data compiled or gathered by outside researchers and journalists but on the state's own information, began to explain what was happening, Snyder's spokespeople and MDEQ officials worked to deflect, discredit and deny.

State employees who intentionally distort data could face jail time under a proposed law

Michigan Radio, January 5, 2016

A state lawmaker wants to make it a felony for state employees to manipulate data in official reports.

State Representative Phil Phelps, D-Flushing, says there's no law on the books to punish state employees who intentionally distort data to change the outcome of an official report.

Critics claim that's what happened with state reports that downplayed problems with Flint's drinking water after the 2014 switch to the city's namesake river. If that's what happened, Phelps says that should be against the law.

"If that was proven to be manipulation of data or removing data that changed the outcome, it could be subject to a five year felony," says Phelps.

Video: New calls for federal probe of Snyder admin in Flint water fiasco

MSNBC (Rachel Maddow Show), January 4, 2016

Bryn Mickle, Flint Journal/MLive editor, talks with Rachel Maddow about why his organization is calling for a federal investigation, including subpoena power, of what the Rick Snyder administration knew, and when, about the problems with lead and the new water supply to Flint.

Data shows even higher lead poisoning in kids in West Michigan than Flint

Fox 17 in Grand Rapids, January 5, 2016

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The recent scandal over lead-poisoning in the water in Flint prompted many of our communities to take a closer look at the issue. According to recent data, West Michigan neighborhoods are home to even higher levels of lead poisoning in kids than Flint.

The problem in Flint was so bad it forced the head of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality to quit last week. Yet as this crisis continues, data shows the problem is broader than the Flint area.

In a recent report, The Center for Michigan, a think tank promoting awareness of public policy issues, cited evidence that among five Grand Rapids' zip codes alone, nearly one in 10 kids tested positive for lead poisoning.

"In Grand Rapids, it's collectively between those zip codes, it's 10 percent," said Paul Haan, executive director with the Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan. "We're four times the national level of kids with that low to moderate to even high level of lead poison."

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY

Weather spotters serve as eyes and ears for meteorologists

Port Huron Times Herald, January 4, 2016

Stan Arnett has been tracking severe weather for at least three decades.

The 70-year-old Marysville man is one of about 50 trained weather spotters in St. Clair County.

Arnett said it was something he started doing through his love of amateur radio.

"A long time ago I was interested in the magic of communicating around the world or even locally on two-way radios," he said.

Now he uses that hobby to talk to people around the world and help meteorologists determine if severe weather warnings need to be issued.

"Any severe weather ... anything that significantly impacts citizenry," is reported, Arnett said. "It's just something I can do."

Rich Pollman, the warning coordination meteorologist at the National Weather Service White Lake office, said about half of the 5,000 spotters in the 17-county region are ham radio operators.

Levees among possible cause of more frequent flooding

Associated Press, January 5, 2016

The Mississippi River floods more often than it used to, and at higher levels. Richard Knaup thinks he knows why.

The veteran emergency management director for southeast Missouri's Cape Girardeau County is fighting floods again, just as he did last year, and the year before that, and the year before that.

"Prior to levee building, the river was a wild thing and it spread out between the river bluffs," Knaup said Monday. "Now we've tried to tame it. Mother Nature and Old Man River will fight back."

Ex-Macomb County PR rep arrested in child porn case

Detroit Free Press, January 4, 2016

A former spokesman for Macomb County government, the Detroit International Bridge Co. and Cobo Center who is well-known in metro Detroit public relations and media circles has been arrested on child porn charges by the Macomb County Sheriff's Office.

Philip William Frame, 61, of Shelby Township is charged with five counts of possession of child sexually abusive material, a four-year felony; one count of using a computer to commit a crime, a seven-year crime, and a misdemeanor charge for possessing marijuana, the Sheriff's Office said today.

He was arrested and then released Saturday from the Macomb County Jail after posting a \$10,000 cash or surety interim bond. He was formally arraigned today, where the same bond was continued. His next court date is Jan. 19.

Police ask citizens to report unusual activity

Soo Evening News, January 5, 2016

With the country seemingly in a heightened state of alert, Michigan State Police are reminding local residents that they can play a critical role with the newly unveiled "If you see something, say something" campaign.

"Homeland security starts with hometown security and our citizens know their neighborhoods, schools and work places better than anyone," said F/Lt. Joe Shier of the St. Ignace Post. "If something appears suspicious or out of place, don't hesitate to report it to law enforcement."

An expert on right-wing terrorism explains the militia movement behind the Oregon takeover

Vox, January 5, 2016

A group of armed activists calling itself Citizens for Constitutional Freedom took over a federal building on the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge near Burns, Oregon, on Saturday, saying they were protesting the tyranny of the federal government.

The militants have called for others throughout the US to come and join their fight. They're tapping into a growing trend: the number of unorganized militias in the US has increased 37 percent in the past year, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Daryl Johnson saw this coming. In 2009, as an analyst at the Department of Homeland Security, Johnson wrote a report arguing that the economic downturn and the election of the first black president could fuel a new wave of anti-government violence from extreme right-wing groups.

His report was later leaked, provoking widespread outrage from conservatives. Johnson left DHS in 2010. But his analysis proved correct. The number of anti-government militias grew ninefold between 2008 and 2011, and after a brief period of decline, is now growing again.

El Nino storms slam drought-parched California

Associated Press, January 5, 2016

A strong storm was forecast for Northern California, prompting officials to issue flash flood watches for several rural areas hit by last year's wildfires.

El Nino storms lined up over the Pacific started soaking California with light rain Monday but a series of stronger systems are expected to arrive starting Tuesday, forecasters said.

The National Weather Service issued a flash-flood watch for Northern California communities affected by several destructive wildfires last summer and fall.

Michigan DNR Marks Busy 2015 With Several Successes

Ammoland, January 5, 2016

When wildfires raged this season in western states – and a Canadian province – the Michigan DNR was quick to put a fireman to work on putting out a hot spot on the Marquette County Road 601 fire. The fireman was among several sent to Manitoba this past summer. respond. This year, 54 individuals traveled to hot zones in Alaska, California, Idaho, Manitoba, Montana, Oregon and Washington, taking on 16 different overhead positions from fire-line leadership to command staff and hand crews. There were a total of 58 dispatches (or assignments), each one lasting roughly two weeks.

“Cooperative efforts are key to protecting people, property and resources statewide as well as nationally,” said Paul Kollmeyer, DNR resource protection section manager. “We are proud that our firefighters have the necessary skills to assist with emergency situations in other states.”

Kollmeyer said that while DNR firefighters are providing assistance out west or in other locations, Michigan remains adequately staffed to handle any fire incident that might start here at home. When sending staff on out-of-state firefighting assignments, the state of Michigan is fully reimbursed for all costs associated with providing that support.

Clare County Crews Work To Repair Gas Line

9 and 10 News, January 5, 2016

Construction crews in the city of Clare hit a gas line while working near an old car dealership.

Clare County's emergency manager says the crew hit a line at an old Ford dealership at the south end of Clare.

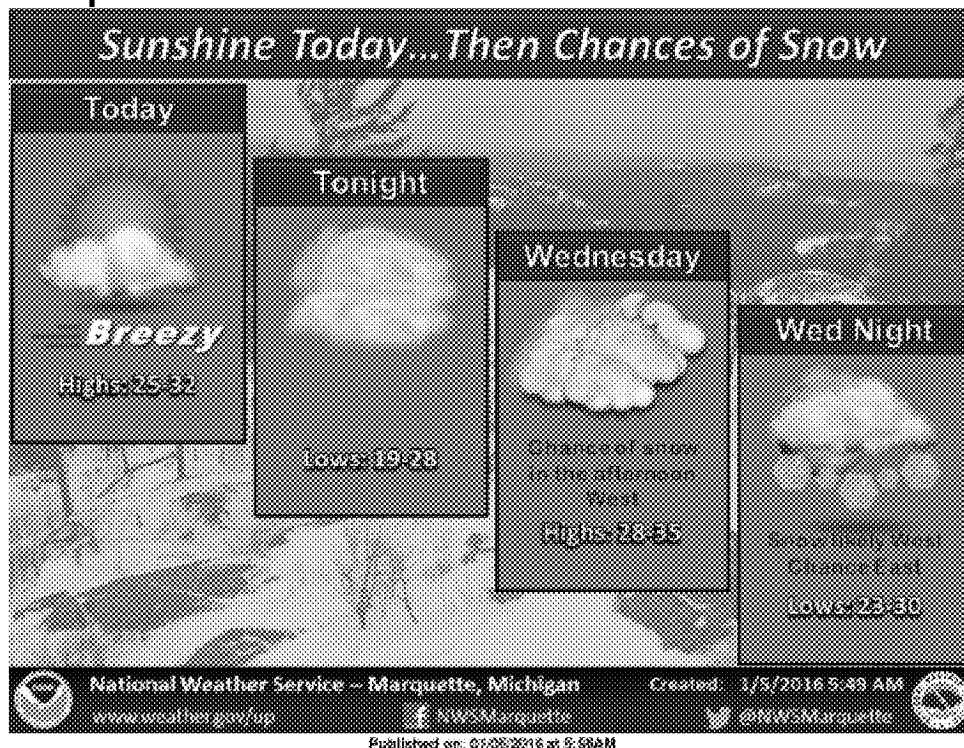
The Admiral Gas Station next to the old car dealership was quickly evacuated.

The street was blocked off between McEwan and Clare streets while crews worked to repair the line, but has since been reopened.

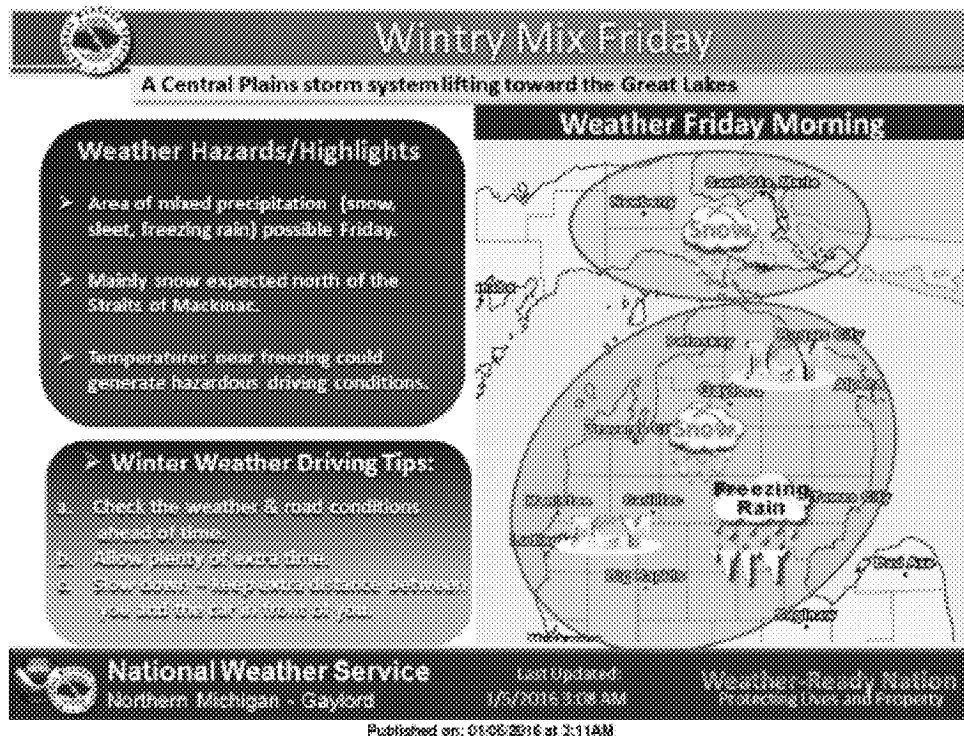
We have a crew heading to Clare and will have the latest updates on the gas leak on air and online.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECASTS

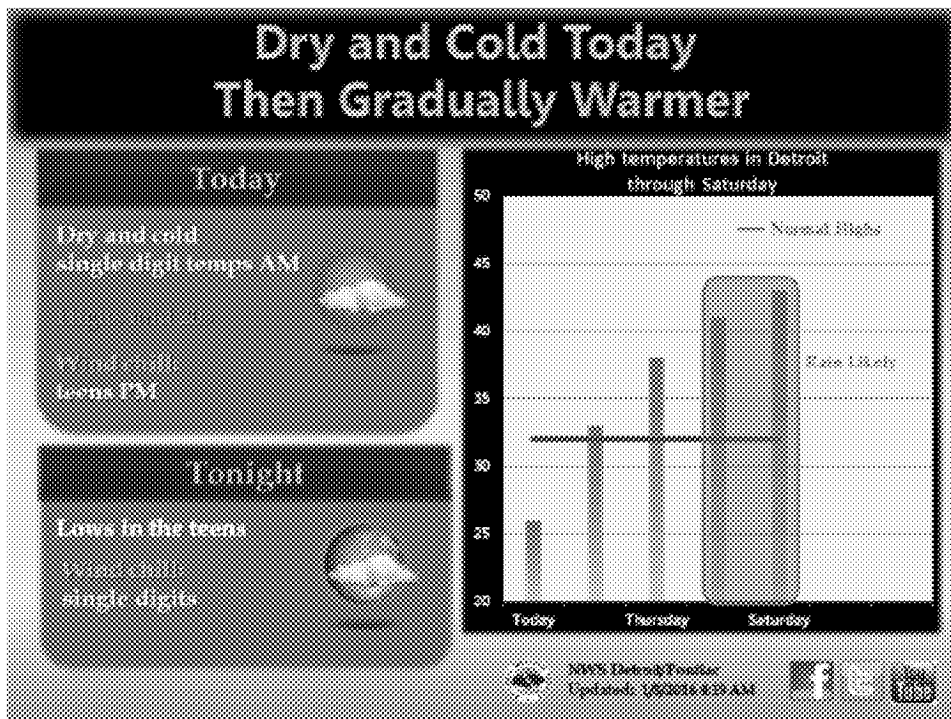
Marquette



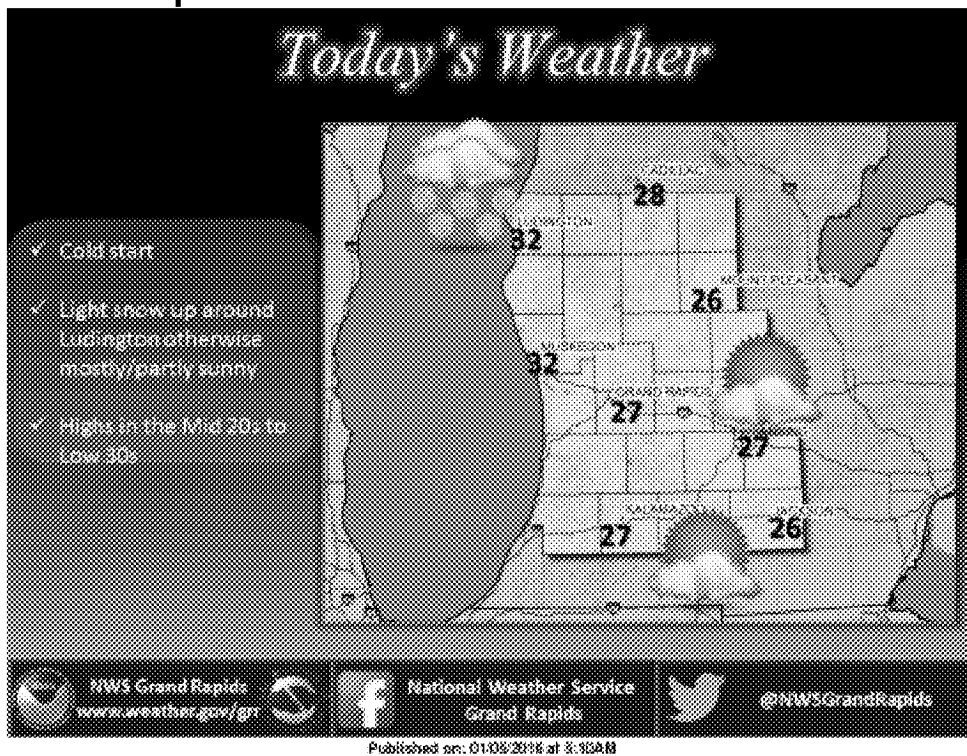
Gaylord



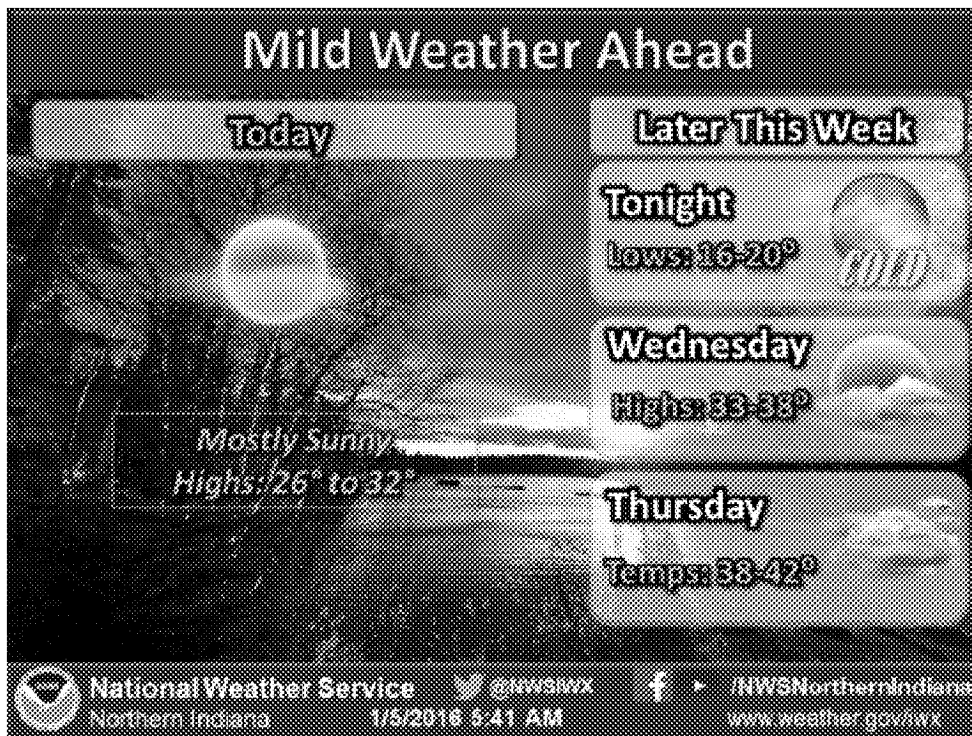
Detroit



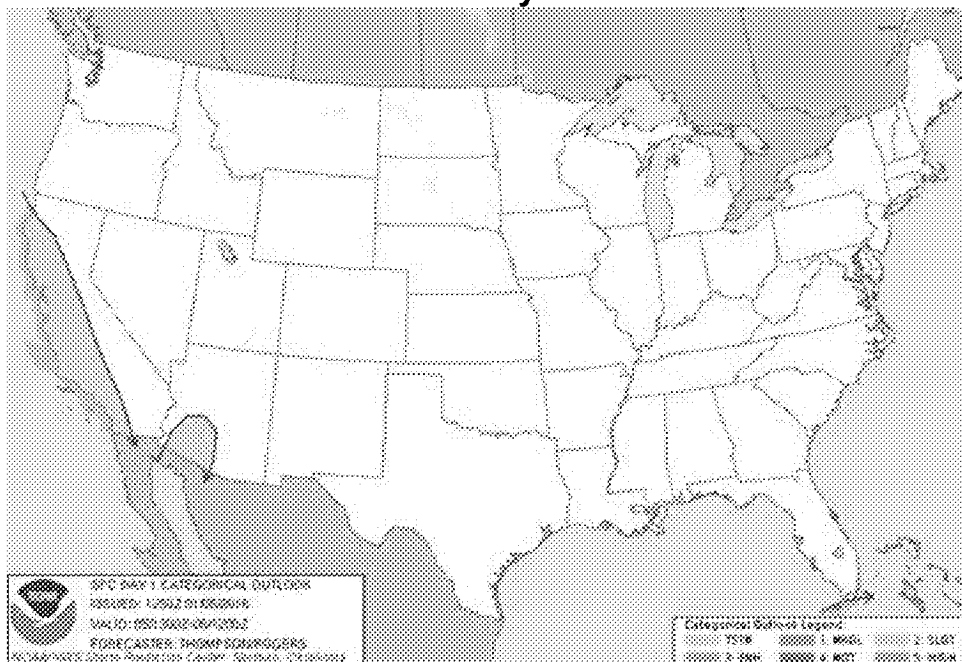
Grand Rapids



Northern Indiana



Storm Prediction Center – Day 1 Outlook



TV/RADIO CLIPS

Flint Water Advisory Task Force speaks for first time

WJRT-TV 12 in Flint, January 4, 2016

<http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=4b889484-6013-4380-827D-DC528D723DD9>

Water shutoffs continue in Flint, Family suffers due to bad water

WNEM-TV 5 in Flint, January 4, 2016

<http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=e91aa10a-58d9-4cef-a3e3-07729d9ee7df>

City looking for help from president

WJRT-TV 12 in Flint, January 4, 2015

<http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=9a36a4a2-71c0-43ef-a581-f9696a80026d>

SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter



Flint Water Study @flintwaterstudy

Hint: The answer is 'Yes' twitter.com/flintjournal/s...



Matthew Elliot @mattbastard

Essential #FlintWaterCrisis round-up, especially for those not in the proverbial 'know'.
[blog.seattlepi.com/videoblogging/...](http://blog.seattlepi.com/videoblogging/)

Facebook



The Rachel Maddow Show

14 hrs ·

Rachel Maddow is back in the hosting seat tonight!

Tonight we'll get the latest as the Flint mayor's declaration of emergency heads to Governor Snyder's office.

In case you missed it over the holidays, the previous update in the Flint water story was that Governor Snyder apologized for the crisis and announced the resignation of the state's environmental chief.

<http://on.msnbc.com/1PcanXO>



Audrey Mitten

10 mins ·

If you were compelled by "Making a Murderer" on Netflix, you'll be fascinated by "Making Flint's Poisoned Water and Looking the Other Way" by the State of Michigan.

A must see/read.

Quite the chain of events, but not yet a Federal emergency.

theguardian.com/us-news/2015/dec/30/michigan-governor-rick-s...



Theo White

4 hrs ·

You have heard the news. Even still, watch this video. Just at least the first three minutes. After you start its hard to stop.

Then ask yourself a few questions.

1. Did I vote in last year's Election that got Rick Snyder re-elected?
2. (If No) Do I feel like a complete idiot for not using my valuable vote to keep this guy from destroying the city of Flint as well as the rest of our state?
3. (If Yes) Who did I vote for again?
4. (If Yes, and you voted Snyder) What makes me so dumb? Is it that my parents raised me to vote biasedly on their own views, and I blindly helped elect a scumbag?
5. (If Yes, and you didn't vote Snyder) How could I have helped keep him from being elected in the first place when there are so many biased idiots who's biased political views come from their parents? Why aren't there more citizens voting?
6. How can I get this guy out of office



Jon Gersier

8 hrs ·

Let me just say that in this new year, 2016, is a Presidential Election year. This issue of Flint's contaminated water supply is a direct result of "you get who you vote for". Gov. Snyder, a republican is where the buck stops. He is the one who appointed the special manager to take over Flint's government from the officials those very people elected. Shame on the republicans! Remember - you get who you vote for!!!
Poor Flint!

freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2016/01/04/board-declare...



ABC 12: Your Trusted Source! WJRT-TV

13 hrs ·

There's disturbing information that three months after a campaign began to make free water filters available to fight lead in Flint, many homes still do not have them. #FlintWater



Andrew Heller

8 mins ·

Nice job, Bryn Mickle. Very succinctly put.

msnbc.com/rachel-maddow/watch/federal-probe-of-flint-water-f...

YouTube

Undrinkable: Flint Water Emergency – Published January 4, 2016

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TA53UEr2vaQ>

Flint Water Crisis – Published January 2, 2016

<https://youtu.be/mgDsnTTOg-k>