

## **(Neb.)-Dawes County Urges Drivers To Be Cautious On Flooding Roads**

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 03/06/2014 02:20 PM

*Photo: The White River near Crawford*

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(DAWES COUNTY)-Dawes County highway superintendent Larry Hankin stopped by KCSR/KBPY Thursday afternoon to send a message urging residents to be very careful right now while they are out and about navigating county roads, particularly those that intersect or run parallel to creeks and rivers. Hankin says, "We're experiencing a lot of flooding throughout the county, where the water normally crosses the road and also spots where it normally doesn't cross."

Hankin specifically mentioned White River as one that the county is monitoring, especially along Mansfield Road. He says the water rose to the west and now officials are watching to see how far it's going to come east. He says it's also flooding in the south. There is a spot on East River Road that had to be closed Wednesday, because one area is completely impassable. Hankin says, "When the water comes down, we will make repairs. Until then, we can only wait and flag it where the water is crossing, so people will know." He says crews have been able get the water running in just one location now to relieve some of the flooding to the east, but only time will tell when the road will be able to be reopened again.

Hankin is advising people to not cross roads where water is running over, because it is hard to tell how much has been washed away below. He says if there is a way to possibly go around such areas at all, like taking another route, he highly encourages drivers to do just that.

So far, Hankin says other creeks in the area haven't come up too much yet, but there is still a lot of snow left to melt. After the sun came out and starting melting things the past couple of days, he said he noticed that the water's running harder now. He says he actually hopes it gets cold again, so it can warm up gradually and not cause this much runoff all at once.

The county is monitoring the current situation; however, for those who would like to report an area of flood concern or for those who have a question for the county road department, call Hankin's office at 432-0483.

(Questions? Comments? E-mail [news@chadrad.com](mailto:news@chadrad.com).)

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