

Martin J. O'Connor
District #1

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**Knox County Courthouse
P.O. Box 166
Center, NE 68724-0166**

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July 28, 2011

The Missouri River flood is affecting many people and is a concern for the various offices of Knox County. The Board of Supervisors recently resolved that "the Missouri River Flood of 2011 is a problem for all of Knox County and all offices and departments are encouraged and directed to provide all possible assistance." While there are many unanswered questions at this time, we, as a County, are trying to be proactive to make recovery go as smooth as possible so we are telling you what we know now and will update information when things change or we learn more.

The Board of Supervisors, various offices, Knox County Development Agency, and the Planning Commission are discussing how to accomplish recovery and make the river area even better than it was. No definite plans can be made though until the flood waters go down and damages are assessed. Please be patient as recovery will take time. FEMA will also be hosting meetings if a disaster is declared.

When the water goes down, you will want to start cleaning up, tearing up carpets, floors, and drywall and treating for mold. However, the following will apply:

1. FEMA and the Floodplain Regulations require you to have a permit for any repairs to determine if the repairs exceed more than 50% of the pre-flood value. If the repairs exceed the 50% threshold, they are deemed a "substantial improvement" and you need to comply with all flood plain regulations for rebuilding, bringing everything up to code, and observing setbacks. You can contact the Zoning and Floodplain Administrator at 402-288-5618 or kc zoning@gpcom.net to obtain the proper permits.
2. If you do start cleanup and demolition without a permit in hand, you should keep very good records, including receipts of supplies, labor, lists of items destroyed, and photos of cleanup and demolition. These will be important for the permit process and to deal with FEMA if Knox County is eligible for Individual Assistance.
3. The Nebraska State Electrical Division has decided all flooded residences will have an electrical inspection before power is restored. Any electrical wires, outlets, or service panels that have been submerged will have to be replaced before inspection and restoration of power.
4. For your flood and demolition debris, you may want to contact Key Sanitation at 402-358-5127 for roll offs and dumpsters, or the City of Plainview at 402-582-4928 for more information about the construction & demolition dump or the transfer station. Gill Landfill is willing to take debris if you haul it. They can be reached at 402-632-4461.

*Knox County is an Equal Opportunity Employer**



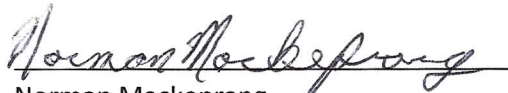
5. Knox County Zoning Regulations allow one temporary camper to stay on the lot while rebuilding but the Floodplain Regulations do have some restrictions that apply. Campers will be allowed without a permit for fewer than 180 consecutive days if they are not tied down, or have any permanently attached additions such as a deck or porch.
6. Please complete the enclosed Initial Information Form and return it to Knox County Zoning at POB 165, Center, NE 68724 or fax it to 402-288-5680, or download the form at www.co.knox.ne.us, complete it and e-mail it to kc zoning@gpcom.net. This will be used for planning and to update your current or temporary contact information.


Please contact Toni Tauber, at 402-288-5619 or knoxcodevelopment@gpcom.net for any business and financial resources that may be needed.


The Knox County Extension office has links to information regarding flooding and can be found at <http://knox.unl.edu/> or <http://flood.unl.edu> or by calling 402-288-5611. You can pick up water test kits for testing of private wells at the Extension office.

There is also information on flood recovery on FEMA's website at www.FEMA.gov, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency's website at www.nema.ne.gov or by calling their Flooding Public Hotline at 855-211-2453, or North Central District Health Department's website at www.ncdhd.ne.gov or by calling them at 877-336-2406.

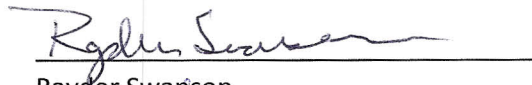
Again, Knox County is concerned and will do all that is possible to help the flooded area to recover.



Norman Mackeprang


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Liz Doerr, Zoning Administrator	402-288-5618