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KALAMAZOO RIVER FLOODING INFORMATION

For Immediate Release

August 16, 2016, Kalamazoo, Michigan – The National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service Hydrograph for the Kalamazoo River Gauge Station at Comstock (nearest gauge station) predicts that the river will crest at approximately 7.6 feet on Thursday afternoon, nearly 2 feet above the Tuesday afternoon reading of 5.71 feet. This information is subject to change as new data comes in; dam operations upstream at the Marrow dam may also affect the river elevation.

The operator of the Morrow Dam indicated that they intended to release additional water from the dam at approximately 4:30 pm today, and again at approximately 08:00 am Wednesday morning. It is estimated that these releases could cause the Kalamazoo River to rise 8 inches to 1 foot approximately 1-2 hours after each release.

With these scheduled releases the Kalamazoo River elevation is not expected to deviate beyond the predicted crest of 7.6 feet (Comstock gauge).

As the Kalamazoo River rises, adjoining creeks such as Portage Creek and Axtell Creek may continue to rise and flood due to the inability of the creek water to flow into the Kalamazoo River.

City of Kalamazoo and Kalamazoo County Office of Emergency Management staff continue to monitor the river and creek levels. Drivers are again cautioned to avoid driving through flooded streets as the water may be deeper than it appears.

You can view real time Kalamazoo River data from the National Weather Service at the following link: <http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=grr&gage=CMSM4>.

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