



## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **New Braunfels Emergency Operations Center Flood Update**

New Braunfels, Texas — Here is a quick overview of some important information:

After several hours with very little rain, the flood waters from earlier today are receding. However, the National Weather Service says we could still see moderate to heavy rainfall over the next 8 to 10 hours. Widespread scattered thunderstorms with locally heavy rain this evening into the overnight hours are possible thanks to an approaching frontal boundary followed by a cold front. Forecasters say we could see a possible 1 to 2 inches of additional rain, with isolated areas getting as much as 4 inches. A Flash Flood Watch remains in effect until 10am Saturday. Remember, any additional significant rainfall (of an inch or more) could cause another rapid rise in river levels.

#### Current river conditions:

Comal River: Crested at 20.5ft at 11:30am and is now at 11.2ft and falling quickly into the “Below Flood Stage” category.

Guadalupe River (above Comal River): Crested at 22.5ft at just after noon then dropped sharply. Currently at 16.5ft.

Guadalupe River (below Comal River): Crested at 24.9ft at just past noon and now at 13.6ft, nearing flood stage

Rapidly rising river levels earlier today forced City of New Braunfels officials to issue evacuations for low lying areas along the Comal and Guadalupe Rivers. At its peak, an estimated 150 to 200 people temporarily took shelter at the Red Cross shelter at Canyon High School which remains open at this hour. Anyone seeking shelter due to damage from flood waters should go to Canyon High School at 1510 IH-35 North.

Throughout the day the New Braunfels Fire Department responded to a total of 17 weather-related incidents, 13 of which were high water incidents. NBFD crews rescued 25 citizens during those high water incidents and assisted with the evacuation of 175 citizens from their residences due to rising flood waters. An estimated 16-18 vehicles were damaged due to high water, 25 permanent structures were damaged due to high water, and 6 RV travel trailers were swept downstream. There has been no known loss of life.

If you have property damage to report, log on to the city's website (<http://www.nbtexas.org/disasterrecovery>) and fill out the form.

For those that have homes that are damaged from floodwaters, you will soon be receiving information from the City Solid Waste Department about how to separate your debris and when and where pickups will occur. (See attached graphic for a few more details.)

Meanwhile, city officials have assessed local streets and bridges and found only superficial damages. The Common Street Bridge and the Gruene River Bridge in particular have been deemed structurally sound and will be reopened after city crews remove flood debris from the roadway.

The New Braunfels Emergency Operations Center remains open and will be closely monitoring those weather conditions and issuing further updates and advisories as needed. We are hopeful that no further evacuations will be necessary, but should they be, those updates will be issued via the city's Flood Warning Sirens, the Emergency Notification System (ENS – also known as Reverse 911), the official City of New Braunfels website, and on the various City of New Braunfels Facebook pages (including NBPD and Nbfd).

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