Reducing the Impact of Flooding - Dairy Farms & Food Facilities

**DAIRY FARMS**
- Contact your dairy plant for additional milk storage.
- Contact your milk hauler for alternate route and pick-up plan.
- Secure adequate feed supplies.
- Relocate feed supplies to protect from flooding.
- Relocate calf hutches to high ground.
- Protect well from floodwater or secure an alternate supply of safe water.
- Have back-up generators available in case of longer term power outages.
- Install additional sump or trash pump for parlor pit.
- Install spill containment kit to keep flood water out of milkhouse and other key areas.
- Remove deep snow. A foot of snow is the equivalent of one to two inches of water. This will reduce snowmelt.
- Pile snow strategically. Locate piles so the snowmelt will drain away from the lot rather than through it.
- Divert drainage. Add shallow diversion ditches so the runoff water flows around the cow yard.
- Manage roof runoff. A shallow trench or ditch beneath the overhang can help direct this water out of the yard.

**FOOD & DAIRY PROCESSING PLANTS, GROCERY STORES & WAREHOUSES**
- Update all emergency telephone numbers.
- Check your flood insurance.
- Keep employees informed of all plans and review their responsibilities.
- Maintain emergency lighting.
- Have back-up generators available in case of longer term power outages.
- Ensure emergency shut offs for refrigeration and other systems are in a protected location.
- Protect well from floodwater or secure an alternate supply of safe water.
- Identify ways to divert floodwater away from the facility, if possible.
- Contact your contractor.
- Update emergency contact list for contractors and utilities.
- Identify alternate storage facilities such as public storage, refrigerated trailers, or storage buildings.
- If flooding is predicted and time allows for safe removal, relocate food, supplies and equipment to alternate storage.
- Locate main gas and electrical shutoffs.
- Protect records. Back up computer records and programs for vulnerable equipment and store all records in a safe, dry location.
- Use plugs to prevent floodwater from backing up in sewer drain.
- Have alternate means of communication available such as cellular phones or battery-operated radios available.

**MDA Contact:** Elaine Santi (218) 744-3335
Dairy & Food Inspection Division (651) 201-6027

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(651) 201-6027 during business hours or contact the Minnesota Duty Officer at 1(800) 422-0798 after hours.