

MEDIA RELEASE

Date: March 30, 2012
Time: 2:30 PM

For further information:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The National Weather Service has issued a flood warning for small streams in Kootenai County and the Coeur d'Alene River at Cataldo. Due to a combination of the spring melt off and high rainfall expected over the next several days, the river is forecast to rise above flood stage late Friday night and should crest on Saturday a 1½ feet above flood stage before quickly receding on Sunday.

The Office of Emergency Management has received reports of water over roadways and small creeks overflowing their banks. Residents in low lying and flood prone areas around the county should monitor river forecasts for updates to get the latest on changing conditions and consider taking preemptive measures now before water levels rise. Such measures include moving belongings to upper levels or to higher ground and consider procuring sandbagging materials and erecting barriers if the need for them is anticipated.

For your safety, do not drive or walk through flowing water. As little as one foot of water on the road can move most vehicles off the road. Also remain aware of the dangers of hypothermia which can occur from exposure to cold water and wet clothing. Children and pets are especially vulnerable during high water events and should be closely supervised.