

Burt County Emergency Management and the County Board of Supervisors have been keeping a close eye on the rapidly changing situation along the Missouri River. With cold temperatures well below zero for multiple weeks, the river froze as it has in years past. Now that the temperatures have gone up considerably the ice on the river has started to break up. During situations such as these, ice can build up as it flows down the river causing ice jams.

In this case, the river in the Decatur area has cleared without backing up, but at the moment the ice is getting held up at the Pelican Point and Harbor 671 areas. The waters have risen high enough in some locations to come up over the sea walls and encroach into yards.

Burt County Emergency Management has been in continuous contact with the National Weather Service and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency to get the most up-to-date information on the potential outcomes of this situation. According to the NWS the Missouri River is clear to the south of our impacted location and they believe that there is a high probability that the ice will clear itself within the next couple of days.

The NWS, along with Burt County officials, advise that with situations involving the waterways, things can change quickly. It is best to stay vigilant of changing conditions and have an evacuation plan if the time comes that you may need to evacuate.

--

Along with changing river conditions, Burt County is in a Red Flag Alert meaning conditions are right for large-scale field fires. In the last few days, Burt County Fire and Rescue Departments have done their best to battle these fires. They have also helped neighboring counties to the north and the south of Burt County.

With conditions like these, the fire departments of Burt County would like to ask residents to not burn, or do anything that could start a fire. They ask that everyone be mindful of their situations and locations to help keep everyone safe.

We would like to thank our Burt County's volunteer department for taking the time from their jobs, families, and lives to protect our homes.

Burt County Emergency Management will continue to monitor any and all hazardous situations and communicate with the public as the need arises.