



City of Russellville  
Office of Mayor Richard Harris

**PRESS RELEASE**

May 28, 2019

RE: Potential Flooding Concerns

The Arkansas River is projected to reach record levels within the next couple of days based upon Corp of Engineers' (COE) model projections of the river flows. The rise in the river level will cause flooding issues in areas around Russellville, but the Corp of Engineers' model projections for Lake Dardanelle (the area upstream of the dam) do not indicate that levels will rise significantly enough to create major flooding concerns for most properties along the lake.

There are parts of our city and surrounding area that are subject to floodwaters crossing some of our roadways. The Russellville Police Department and Public Works Department will be monitoring our roadways for any issues and will post caution signs or obstructions as necessary. It is critical that vehicles proceed with caution for the next several days when travelling roads at lower elevations and adhere to warning signs and road blocks. When in doubt, do not proceed through flooded areas. This is for your protection as well as the protection of your family and others.

Also, be aware that Entergy has announced that some customers may experience power outages as water levels rise. In some cases, they may need to de-energize lines in anticipation of electrical equipment being submerged.

Depending on the amount of rainfall that occurs Wednesday and Thursday, the tributaries around the lake may backup and experience higher than normal levels due to the higher lake and river levels. Any water traveling into already flooded areas will have no place to go, which may increase the water level in those flooded areas. Individuals living around creeks or tributaries should monitor water levels closely to determine if their personal property will be at risk, or if they may be cut off by road closures.

The Arkansas Department of Transportation has requested that individuals having questions about road closures check their website, [IDRIVEARKANSAS.COM](http://IDRIVEARKANSAS.COM).

It is also advised that persons stay off the lake during this period of high flows and lake levels.

Updates will be provided as conditions change or additional information becomes available.