

Hay River Reopening Plan

June 1, 2022, 3:00pm

Changes from prior update:

- Damage assessments for over 25 identified Town infrastructure assets are at various stages of completion. Most assessments are targeted to be completed by June 14th. Repair and cleanup work are being completed in conjunction with assessment work.
- The GNWT's construction of the Paradise Gardens temporary road has started this week. The approximate 1km road is being constructed within the Town road easement where some grubbing is required. Timeline for completion is next week. Long term road access discussions will occur at a date to be determined.
- Lift Station #1 remains operational through its compromised state. Occasional, short outages to water / sewer services tied to the lift station are anticipated through the summer as repair and replacement work is completed on generators, pumps, and control systems through that period.
- Minor facility repairs and cleanup for the Fisherman's Wharf Pavilion have started by the Town and insurance crews. The Fisherman's Wharf Market is targeted to resume operations on June 18th.
- Repairs to the Water Treatment Plant and Lagoon roads are ongoing and will continue through the summer. Motorists should use caution on the roads.
- A house has been removed blocking access to residents along Alaska Road at the West Point First Nations area. Repairs and cleanup of the roadway are pending. A portion of the road (berm) will remain closed due to prior year bank erosion. The Town and West Point are awaiting a decision on federal funding to repair the berm through an approved capital project.
- Cleanup and repairs are underway at several Town recreation parks and trail systems. Trail and park closures include: Rotary Trail, Irma Miron Trail, Airport to CN Yard, Bob McMeekin Park (partial), Scout's Trail, West Channel Park, Porritt Landing Marina (partial)
- Local softball user groups are supporting Town crews at the Keith Broadhead Memorial Ballpark this week where flood damage impacted fencing, playing surfaces, and parking. The ballpark is scheduled to open the week of June 6 with further repairs scheduled into the Fall.
- Administration and the Finance Committee of Council have met to review 2022 planned capital projects. Some projects will be deferred primarily due to capacity concerns during flood recovery. Others will proceed with design amendments that include increased flood mitigation.

- Hay River Health and Social Services will be hosting Critical Incident Debriefing Sessions Friday June 3 at 9am and 3pm at the Doug Wieterman Hall located in the Hay River Community Centre. The session is designed to help people process the flood event to minimize symptoms of stress, depression and anxiety.
- Samaritans Purse is available to assist residents with flood recovery and cleanup activities. Call 1-833-738-7743 to register for assistance or to volunteer with them. The Town coordinated Volunteer Flood Cleanup Program will transfer their services to the Samaritans Purse.
- MACA Pathfinders have relocated to the MACA office next to the Court House (8 Capital Drive). Pathfinders will assist impacted parties with disaster recovery claims.

Private Property Disaster Recovery and Assistance

If a property sustained flooding, property owners should coordinate electrical and gas inspections before occupying. Inspectors can be reached through 867-767-9043. Please refer to the GNWT's "RETURNING HOME SAFELY AFTER FLOODING" checklist found at www.hayriver.com/breakup .

GNWT Pathfinders are located at the MACA office next to the Court House. All impacted residents should register for an assessment, emergency repairs, and for Disaster Assistance at the MACA Office or by calling (867) 767-9161 ext. 21031. More information is available at <https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/disaster-recovery-and-assistance>

Samaritans Purse is available to assist residents with flood recovery and cleanup activities. Call 1-833-738-7743 to register for assistance or to volunteer with them. They are a relief organization that accepts requests for emergency cleanup assistance to support homeowners with activities such as removing debris, drywall, mold remediation, and preparing homes for restoration work.

It is suggested that ahead of any repair work, property owners take pictures of their property damage and contact their insurance company.

A supply of fans, dehumidifiers, and shop vacs are available for checkout at the donation center located at the Community Centre.

The Town of Hay River has developed a Disaster Clean-up & Debris Management Plan to guide property owners on safe practices for disposing of their flood based debris. Please review the plan at www.hayriver.com/breakup

Spill response materials are available from the GNWT and are located at the turn around at the end of west channel on the Mackenzie highway. Materials available include spill booms, spill pads, garbage bags and large contaminated soils bags. Please report spills to the NWT Spill line at 1-867-920-8130. Information on disposal methods for contaminated materials will be provided later.

Comfort and Care Services and Other Information

Food services are being offered at the Soaring Eagle Friendship Centre for those impacted by flooding.

Clothing, non-perishable foods, and supplies are available at the Donation Centre located on the Curling Ice Surface at the Hay River Community Centre. The Donation Centre is open daily between 10am and 2pm and 4pm and 8pm.

Washroom and shower services are available at the Hay River Community Centre.

An FAQ has been created and added to the www.hayriver.com/breakup page. It will be amended as new questions are asked.

Infrastructure and Utility Update

Lift Station #1 is now operational with reduced installed capacity and contingency. Several auxiliary systems within the building will need to be repaired and replaced in the coming months. All properties within the main town should now have water and sewer services restored. Boil Water Advisory is still in effect. Anticipate increased colouration due to turbidity.

Hazard assessments of major infrastructure and utility distribution systems were completed by local utility and public works providers. These inspections do not include service inspections of private property.

The reopening plan considers the results of the distribution level inspections and the general safety of community zones. It does not consider risks that may be the result of individual property damage caused by flooding. Private property holders will need to schedule assessments of their property to ensure safe to occupy.

Upon return, if residents determine their home is not habitable due to flood damage, contact the Registration Center at 1-833-699-0188 for assistance. Midterm housing plans will be identified.

All residents will be permitted to return to the Town of Hay River. However, in some areas one or more critical service will not be available and some areas remain inaccessible.

It is critical that returning residents understand the specific services which are available at their property when deciding as to when it is appropriate to return.

Infrastructure and Utility Types Assessed

- Electrical Distribution Systems;
- Wastewater Systems;
- Road Systems.
- Water Systems.
- Heating Distribution Systems.

Risk Classifications

- Green: All utility and infrastructure systems functional.
- Yellow: One utility or infrastructure system compromised.
- Orange: Multiple utility and infrastructure systems non-functional.

Zone Summaries

Green Zones – All utility and infrastructure systems functional.

- All areas with exception of Paradise Gardens

Yellow Zones - One utility or infrastructure system compromised.

- Paradise Gardens
 - Road access to paradise gardens is limited to local traffic for residents accessing their properties and to essential service traffic. Town engineering is assessing the road and bank stability and is working on temporary road access with the GNWT.
 - Trucked water and sewer service is now available.
 - Power distribution network is online. Some properties require electrical inspections.

Orange Zones - Multiple utility and infrastructure systems non-functional.

- none