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Otter Tail County

Press Release

300,000 sandbags purchased for use by residents

Otter Tail County asking for cooperation from residents in prioritizing the use of bags for protection of homes & dwellings

Otter Tail County: The OTC Emergency Operations Team, with approval from the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners, has purchased 300,000 sandbags to be available to residents. The Emergency Operations Team is working to set up three distribution locations where residents will have access to the sandbags, sand, and plastic needed to construct dikes. **Residents will be responsible for filling and transporting their own sandbags.** Bags that are filled on site will be available free of charge. Residents are asked to prioritize the use of the free supplies for the protection of homes and dwellings.

Individuals interested in purchasing empty sandbags may do so at the distribution centers for .20 cents per bag. All residents who utilize the distribution centers (for filled or unfilled bags) will be required to show identification and provide the address of the location where the bags will be used.

The following distribution locations will be open beginning Monday, February 28, 2011 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Locations will be open Monday thru Friday until further notice. **In order to ensure that supplies are on hand, please call 218-998-8470 to schedule a time to fill or pick up sandbags. Supplies will NOT be accessible at distribution sites after the designated hours of operation.**

Distribution locations are as follows:

1. Pelican Rapids County Highway Garage - 208 NE 5th Avenue - Pelican Rapids, MN
2. City of Perham Public Works Facility – 610 County Highway 51 - Perham, MN
3. Battle Lake County Highway Garage – 601 W Holdt Street - Battle Lake, MN

For tips on calculating the number of bags you might need to construct a dike (and for information on proper dike construction) visit www.co.ottertail.mn.us/emergency.

For Immediate Release February 23, 2011