



*innovation. right at home.*

309 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Norfolk, NE 68701  
402-844-2034  
[www.ci.norfolk.ne.us](http://www.ci.norfolk.ne.us)

Liz Wallace  
Communications Manager

[lw Wallace@ci.norfolk.ne.us](mailto:lw Wallace@ci.norfolk.ne.us)

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

4:00 p.m.

### Potential for Major Flooding and Significant Weather Forecasted for the North Fork Elkhorn River Area

The National Weather Service in Omaha has issued a flood warning for the North Fork Elkhorn River near Pierce, affecting Pierce County and northwest Madison County, until Sunday evening or until warning has been cancelled. **There is a potential for historic flood levels of the North Fork of the Elkhorn River.**

Warmer temperatures will accompany a strong storm system which will likely produce 1 – 3 inches of rain over the next few days. This will heighten the risk of river flooding due to the unusual combination of heavy rain, snowmelt, frozen ground, and thick ice cover/jams on area rivers. Smaller streams will rise and fall quickly with flooding only lasting a day or two, but some larger rivers will experience flooding conditions for days.

The situation is expected to become more widespread tonight into tomorrow as rainfall increases in area coverage and intensity. Some potential exists for the development of a few strong to severe storms Wednesday afternoon and evening.

Forecasters expect the flood stage may be reached early Thursday afternoon. Property and business owners in low-lying areas prone to flooding should be prepared to take quick action should flooding develop.

Citizens are strongly encouraged to monitor local media outlets and the US National Weather Service – Omaha/Valley to receive up-to-date flooding and severe weather information. Do not drive cars through areas where water covers the road. The water depth may be too great to allow your vehicle to pass safely. Turn around – don't drown!

For additional information or concerns contact Bobbi Risor, Region 11 Emergency Manager, at 402-844-2050.