

City of Arnold  
December 2015/January 2016  
Flood



Video of drone fly over



December 20, 2015 - Meramec River was at 20 Feet – Flood Stage is 24 feet  
Prediction for rain was additional 2-6 inches of rain

December 24, 2015 - Updated prediction of up to 10 inches of rain

December 26, 2015 – Flood Stage predicted at 41 feet. American Red Cross opened a shelter for the northern area of Jefferson County at First Baptist Church of Arnold.

December 27, 2015 – Latest flood prediction was 42 feet.

December 28, 2015 – Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Opened. Mayor Counts signed a state of emergency for City of Arnold.

December 29, 2015 – Residents are notified that power and gas will be shut off on the north side of Starling Airport Road. Humane Society of Missouri assist in sheltering animals.

December 30, 2015 – Water starting to encroach on to roadways into Arnold. I-55 shut down both directions in the evening.

December 31, 2015 – Meramec River crests at 47.24 feet approximately 11:00 a.m.

December 31, 2015 – Two lanes of I-55 northbound re-open. Arrangements for dumpster to be delivered to affected areas. Inspectors lined up for damage assessments. Fourteen National Guardsmen arrived to assist the city in securing the affected area.

January 1, 2016 – I-55 completely re-open. Damage assessments start. Electric restored to approximately 80% of those not affected.

January 2, 2016 – Dumpsters delivered to the affected areas in the city and were quickly overloaded. All major roadways throughout Arnold are re-opened. Bulk Distribution Center opened. United Way opened reception center to help displaced residents in the affected areas.

January 3, 2016 – Temperatures caused roads to ice. Public Works personnel assisted residents moving large items to the dumpsters. Continued with damage assessments. Electric turned on to the remaining 20% of unaffected residents.

January 4-8, 2016 – EOC remained open. Continual damage assessments, debris removal, bulk distribution and building permits issued for repairs.

January 9-10, 2016 – EOC downsized and telephones answered. Continued damage assessments.

FEMA Classification	Totals
Destroyed	9
Major	146
Minor	53
Affected	124
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>332</b>

## LESSONS LEARNED

Appoint one person as the Emergency Manager for your jurisdiction.

Social Media is your friend and a must in these situations. Facebook, Twitter, your website, etc. **Keep them updated frequently throughout the day as conditions change.**

**Verify all information with more than one source!**

**FEMA and NIMS training is required** and will make the job easier through contacts and networking.

**UPDATE LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN ANNUALLY**

Train, Train, Train! Did we mention training is important.

Do not charge a fee for building permits related to the flood.

## LESSONS LEARNED - CONTINUED

**Get intergovernmental agreements (IGA)/Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in place now before a natural disaster** with surrounding jurisdictions for inspectors, equipment, shelters, bulk distribution sites, Human Society and other animal operations.

In working with FEMA/SEMA make sure that you **document all of your bills** and money spent on the event! Separate the bills by Department. **Keep copies of checks used to pay bills!!!!**

Stock your EOC to keep the emergency responders (National Guardsmen, inspectors, City employees, electric linemen, etc) fed, rested and hydrated.

Make sure your **EOC is of adequate size to accommodate everyone** working there and coming through.