



April - June 2005

CITYSCAPES

St. George City Newsletter

www.sgcity.org



The Flood of 2005

Early estimates from Washington County placed the total damage of the devastating floods that occurred during the second week of January 2005 at roughly \$150 to \$180 million, with another \$100 million possibly needed for river reclamation efforts. The raging waters of the Santa Clara River, and to a lesser extent the Virgin River, reached flows not seen in this part of the country since floods carried away several settlements and settlers during the winter of 1862.

While federal, state and city governments have done much to provide aid and relief for infrastructure repair, none of these entities will be contributing to the relief of individual victims of the flood. Early reports indicate 20 homes totally lost with another 15-20 condemned or that have suffered serious damage. Of this total, it is estimated that individual property loss and damages total \$10 million, representing \$3 million of net equity required to restore individuals to their pre-flood position.

The community has come together to form an entity with the sole purpose to raise funds and distribute these funds on a needs basis to the victims of the flood. The entity has been organized as a non-profit charity (501(c)(3) pending) named Virgin River Santa Clara River Flood Relief, Inc. The entity will collect all donations and pass 100 percent of the funds to victims of the flood.

At present, total contributions have been received in the amount of \$1.5 million. The goal of the Virgin River Santa Clara River Flood Relief, Inc. is \$3.0 million. The need is great as families are without homes and possessions, hoping to receive some assistance as they seek to rebuild their lives. Donate today and receive the photo-anthology "Portraits of Loss - Stories of Hope" book and DVD set that has been put together to chronicle the memory of the flood and also raise money for the flood victims.



SunRiver Golf Course

PROGRESS -TO-DATE

The trustees are now in the process of meeting with the flood victims to determine their needs. Priorities have been determined to help those who lost the most with the greatest needs. The flood victims who lost their primary homes are on the top of the list.

SBA loans are now available for those who qualify. The SBA has set up an office in the Five County Offices in the Tonaquint Center off Dixie Drive.

If you were a victim of the Flood of 2005 and would like to fill out an application for assistance, please call our office at 634-1114 or you may email any comments or questions to the Flood Relief office - atay@charter.net .



Valley View Drive Looking South



Gunlock Bridge

Be Cool! Take swimming Lessons at Sand Hollow Aquatics Center or St. George City Pool
Registration is May 7th at the SHAC or May 14th at the City Pool
Swimming Lessons Start June 6th. Call 634-5938

A photograph of two children enjoying a swimming pool. One child is in a green inflatable ring, and the other is in a yellow inflatable ring.



City of St. George Damaged Areas

The Flood of 2005

BRIDGES

Valley View Dr. Crossing
River Road Bridge
Mathis Bridge
Tonaquint Bridge
Dixie Drive Bridge
Man O War Bridge
Main Street Bridge
Gunlock Well - Access Bridge
Sunbrook Golf (2)
Southgate Golf (2)
Santa Clara Trail (2)
Mathis Park (1)
TOTAL BRIDGES (15)

ROADS

Dixie Drive
1450 South
Sugar Leo Drive
Man O War Road
TOTAL ROADS (4)

GOLF COURSES

Sunbrook
Southgate
TOTAL GOLF (2)

PARKS & TRAILS

Mathis Park
Bloomington Park
Blake Memorial Park
Tonaquint Park
Clark Corner Park
Christensen Park
Virgin River South Trail
Virgin River South Trail II
Virgin River South Trail III
Hilton Drive Trail
Santa Clara River Trail
Halfway Wash Trail
TOTAL PARKS (6) & TRAILS (6)

ENERGY UTILITIES

Valley View/Green Valley 302
Green Valley/Santa Clara River 302
Hilton Drive/Southgate
Southgate 381
Southgate 69KV
Gunlock Well Power Lines
Sunbrook to Green Valley back feed
Mathis Pump transformer
BLM & Misc. Energy projects
TOTAL ENERGY UTILITIES (9)

WATER SERVICES

Valley View Bridge Crossing
12" and 14" Tonaquint Bridge
Waterline
Gunlock Well #5
Gunlock Well - Spillway & Asbestos
Pipe
TOTAL WATER SERVICES (4)

WASTEWATER SYSTEM & TREATMENT PLANT

Wastewater Treatment Plant
18" Outfall - Blue Duck Section
36" Outfall - Mathis Park Section
Wastewater Collection System
Tonaquint Bridge sewer line
36" Outfall - McDermitt Section
Valley View Bridge Crossing
30" Outfall - I-15 and Santa Clara
River
Asbestos Pipe Removal - Santa Clara
River
TOTAL WW SYSTEM & TREATMENT PLANT (9)

EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Police Dept.
Fire Dept.
Non- Public Safety (Streets, Parks,
Water, Sewer, etc.)
TOTAL EMERGENCY PROT. MEASURES

RIVER CHANNEL & FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT

Santa Clara River
Virgin River
Channel Revegetation
Flood Plain Management
TOTAL RIVER CHANNEL & FPM (4)

Donations to assist homeowners may be sent to:

**Virgin River / Santa Clara
River Flood Relief, Inc.
c/o Soltis Advisors
192 E 200 North, Suite 100
St. George, UT 84770**



Sunbrook Golf Course Woodbridge Hole #2



Tonaquint Park



Southgate Golf Course

Portraits of Loss

The Book: This book is "perfect-bound" and includes 128 pages of color photos, editorial and first-hand accounts from those directly affected by or involved in the aftermath of the flood.
The DVD: Hear the stories, see the video and experience the power of mother nature in this feature DVD.



Stories of Hope

100% of all book and DVD proceeds will aid the flood victims. For larger contributions, donations in kind, fund raising resources, or questions, please contact us at Natalie@Utahfloodrelief.com or call 435-634-1114 or 888-634-1114.



St. George's Finest... Keeping Us Safe



Fire Station #7

The mission of the City of St. George Fire Department is to protect and preserve life, property, and the environment from fire and disaster whether it be natural or man made, and to prepare for and respond to other emergency situations through aggressive training, fire prevention, and community programs with a positive attitude towards safety, customer service, and community relations.

Two additions within the St. George Fire Department over the past year have been the addition of Fire Station #7 and hazardous materials technicians and associated equipment.

Our newest fire station, Fire Station #7, is located at 1912 West 1800 North. It is a state of the art facility with 10,000 square feet, a three-apparatus bay area, training room, and sleeping quarters for crews. The station also has an area for a back up 911-dispatch center, which also has a small training room and offices. The fire department side of the station has administrative offices, a dayroom, and kitchen for the crews.

The station houses a full-time crew of two that staff an engine 24 hours, seven days a week. This is the second station that the St. George Fire Department has staffed with a full-time crew, which will add to fire coverage throughout the city.

The department currently has fifteen full-time and fifty-two volunteer firefighters who respond from seven stations throughout the city. Our crews respond to emergencies, perform fire prevention inspections throughout the community, and maintain all fire equipment and fire stations in the city.

The St. George Fire Department took part in the development of the Southwest Regional Response Team this past fall. It is a hazardous material team that trains and responds to leaks, spills, and accidents involving hazardous materials. The response area for the team includes Washington, Kane, Iron, Garfield, and

Beaver counties. The twenty-eight technicians began the 125-hour training program in April of 2004. The team is made up of twenty-two firefighters and six law enforcement personnel from eleven departments in Washington and Iron counties. This response team is divided up into three groups; St. George, Hildale, and Cedar City.

Over the past three years, the Southwest Regional Response Team has been associated with the Utah State Homeland Security grant program. The grants have allowed us to purchase roughly three million dollars worth of equipment. Items such as air monitoring devices, decon showers, chemical response suits, air packs, Infrared Spectroscopy, spill clean up tools, and two heavy rescue apparatus have been added to our extensive supply of emergency-response equipment.

The team has responded to nine calls in three counties over the last year. The team trains once a month and works with other local departments to improve the awareness and response to hazardous materials in towns, cities, and counties in our region.



Hazardous materials team in training

2005 Concert in the Park Series 7:30 PM — Starting Time

<p>FREE</p> <p>May 2, 2005 Mariachi Zavala Mariachi Music Vernon Worthen Park</p>	<p>June 6, 2005 Simple People Folk Rock Vernon Worthen Park</p>	<p>July 11, 2005 Michael Lucarelli Classical Guitar Vernon Worthen Park</p> <p>FREE</p>
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New Roads to Improve Traffic Flows

City crews and contractors have been diligently working this past year to ensure continued traffic flow during the St. George Boulevard reconstruction project which is scheduled to begin in June. Many roads have been improved and the new Red Hills Parkway was recently completed to allow motorists an alternate east-west route through St. George.

Although work on the Red Hills Parkway is a phased project that will not be fully complete for several years, essential widening and straightening of the road in anticipation of the traffic diversion from St. George Boulevard has been done. The Red Hills Parkway now extends from SR 18 east on Snow Canyon Parkway (Turtle Road) to Skyline Drive and connects to Highland Drive by way of an extension from Industrial Road. The Red Hills Parkway now allows motorists quick access downtown by using the new 200 East connection.

During the St. George Boulevard reconstruction project, the city and the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) anticipate the majority of east-west traffic will use Red Hills Parkway, 100 South, or 700 South.

Another project that is currently underway is the Riverside Drive Extension project that will allow motorists to travel around the south end of the East Black Ridge from River Road to 3050 East. Due to the increased traffic at the intersection of 700 South and River Road as a result of the new hospital and neighboring professional offices, the mayor and city council moved the Riverside Drive Extension to the top of the priority list.

The project is considered the last leg of an arterial loop through the city that was originally designed in 1981. After completing the necessary land acquisitions for the new road in January of this year, the city is shooting for a completion date sometime in the fall. The cost is estimated at \$3 million.

Following the devastation of the flood in January, Valley View Drive was dissected at the Santa Clara River forcing motorists to make longer than normal detours in the Green Valley area. Coincidentally, a few months prior to the flood, the city and UDOT hired an engineer to design a 300-foot free-

span bridge to better accommodate high water flows in the Santa Clara River. The flood expedited the process allowing the city to secure \$3.5 million in federal bridge replacement funds to finance and construct a new bridge that will be able to handle five lanes of traffic and a city trail connection. The city estimates the new bridge to be completed in 2007.

In the meantime, the city will construct a temporary 90-foot free-span bridge this summer with funds coming from Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) and the city capital projects fund.



2005 Match Play Golf Championship

- \$20 Gross or Net Division entry fee
- \$35 Gross and Net Division entry fee
- Men's & Women's Gross, Net & Senior Divisions
- Entry fee includes all green fees

Carts are optional and not included in entry fee.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2005, AT 7:00 P.M.
GREAT PRIZES FOR FINAL FOUR PLAYERS IN EACH DIVISION

PICK UP ENTRY FORM AT ANY OF ST. GEORGE CITY'S FOUR GOLF SHOPS



Water Conservation

This year brings unique water management challenges for the city. The January flood damaged water distribution pipelines and some wells in the Gunlock well field. City crews continue to work diligently to repair the damage. Although most of the wells are back in production, the total amount available from this well field will be limited until repairs are completed.

The project to expand the Quail Creek Water Treatment Plant from a production capacity of 20 to 40 million gallons per day (MGD) started in 2004. It was anticipated the plant would be up and running March 2005. However, the flood damaged some of the regional pipeline that is designed to carry water from the plant to the residents. This has slowed the project down and the plant will not be available until the second week in April.

The Water Services Department is confident that the system will provide enough water to meet all of the city's needs for the next few years. They are also confident that the community will pull together to use this valuable resource efficiently.

As we enter the irrigation season, please remember to irrigate to your plants' needs. Although the day time temperatures are rising, night temperatures are still cool and plants are not losing as much water as we may think. There are several resources to help you determine the amount of water your landscape needs.

The Dixie Gardener website, www.dixiegardener.org has current watering needs based on the weather. The city has a "Residential Lawn Watering Guide" available that provides information on how to conduct a water audit and a basic watering schedule. The guide can be picked up at the city offices or downloaded from the website, www.sgcity.org, click on "Conservation".

Using water efficiently is a responsibility we share. The following are some techniques that are easy to implement.

- ◆ Water the landscapes between 8:00 pm and 8:00 am. By avoiding watering during the heat of the day, or when it's windy, less water is lost to evaporation and more water is applied where it is needed, to the plants.



- ◆ Conduct a visual check of the irrigation system to be sure heads are adjusted correctly and water is being applied to the landscape rather than sidewalks and driveways.
- ◆ Run the irrigation cycles long enough for the water to soak into the soil, turning it off once water starts running off the landscape. Once the water is no longer being absorbed into the soil it is going to waste. Along with the water going down the street so is your money. Additionally, the water running down the street causes damage to pavement and sidewalks.
- ◆ Repairing leaks is another important way to improve efficiency. To check for leaks, turn off all the water in and out of the house. This includes the connection to ice makers. Then look at the water meter, if it is turning there is a leak. Finding the leak may be difficult, but it will save water and money once it is repaired.
- ◆ Toilets are one of the most common causes of unexplained increases in water use. Leaking toilets can waste 50 or more gallons a day. Most often toilet leaks are a result of the flapper or plunger ball at the bottom of the tank or the overflow pipe not working properly. To determine if your toilet is leaking, add a few drops of food coloring to the toilet tank and wait about 15 minutes. If you see color in the toilet bowl, there is a leak.

By working together we can "reduce our use".



JAG St. George City's Award Winning Junior Golf Program

•Lessons •Tournaments •Discounted Green Fees •Cool Golf Stuff

Pick up a JAG Registration Packet at any St. George Area Golf Course

For details, call Linda at 634-5850 or go to sgcity.org



FORE
the fun of it!

For Boys and Girls Ages 7-17



Energy Conservation

As temperatures begin to rise so does the peak energy load for the City of St. George Energy Services Department. This often makes managing power resources challenging. The energy load peaks Monday through Friday during the hours of 12:00 pm and 8:00 pm. The cost of power to cover peak demand is some of the most expensive in the resource portfolio. These costs must be passed on to customers.

One method of managing the peak demand will be facilitated through the Dixie Conservation Alerts. This program was started last summer and will begin again in June and apply to residents living in the St. George area. The alert status of green, yellow or red will be posted on the city website and in The Spectrum. Through voluntary cooperation, we can lower demand. This is important particularly during the peak times of day.

Implementing energy conservation is simple and saves money. Below are some easy ways to conserve energy and lower your power bill.

- ✦ Use compact fluorescent light bulbs; they use 75% less energy than incandescent bulbs.
- ✦ Consider installing a programmable thermostat and program it to raise the temperature in the summer and lower it in the winter when you will be gone for more than 2 or 3 hours.
- ✦ Using fans to circulate air will allow the thermostat to be set a couple of degrees higher while still feeling comfortable.

- ✦ Consider installing an attic fan with a thermostat that can be set to pull cooler outside air and push out hotter air in the attic, reducing the load on the air conditioning unit.
- ✦ Look for the EnergyStar label when purchasing appliances. EnergyStar appliances use less energy, save money and protect the environment.
- ✦ Check for and repair leaks in the duct system. Leaky ducts can decrease the overall efficiency of your heating/cooling system by as much as 20%.
- ✦ Don't set your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.
- ✦ Plant trees or shrubs to shade air-conditioning units but not to block the airflow. A unit operating in the shade uses as much as 10% less electricity than the same one operating in the sun.

In an effort to meet customer needs, the City of St. George is offering the option of purchasing green power under our Clean Green Energy plan. Energy generated by renewable resources can be purchased to cover a portion of your energy needs. We'd like to hear from you if you are interested in enrolling in the program. Look for more information in your utility bill, on sgcity.org, or contact René Fleming, Conservation Coordinator, at 435-986-4432 or by email at rsfleming@infowest.com.

Open Swim:
 Mon-Thurs
 1-5 pm & 6:30-9 pm
 Fri. 1-9 pm
 Sat. 12-6 pm

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Recreation
 CENTER

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We have a little something to please every member of your family young or old!
 Water Slides • Fountains • Geysers • Diving boards • Lilly pads • Whirlpool

Located at - 1124 North Lava Flow Drive, St. George • Call for information 634-5938



Message from Mayor Dan McArthur



The last several weeks have been filled with both bitter and sweet experiences. Bitter in the fact that many citizens lost their homes, belongings, property, and many other precious things during the recent flooding. It broke my heart to watch these properties disappear into the raging waters then see the grief-stricken victims try to cope with the reality of it all. The devastation to the public infrastructure such as parks, roads, golf courses, and bridges will remain in my memory for the

rest of my life as I am sure it will with many of you. I have witnessed many flooding events in both the Santa Clara and Virgin Rivers before but none of them compare to what happened in January of this year.

As devastating as all of this was, the thing that will remain in my memory is the way the citizens of St George and the surrounding area came together. I saw so many people in the city and the community step up and really shine, from the local contractors, businesses, religious groups, and school children, both old and young just to mention a few. The many groups that took on the challenge of raising funds for victims continue to be exceptional. The State of Utah, from the Governor to the Legislature, from businesses to individuals continue to be supportive in the effort to give relief to those who suffered most. Our public safety personnel, those who we depend on during times of emergency were not only understanding but extended themselves and were so helpful throughout the event. You all deserve a standing ovation!

We are now in the process of rebuilding and making our community even better than it was before. A lot has been done, yet there remains mountains left to do. The funding for all the work that needs to be done is slow in coming, but we have been told over time it will happen. A lot of time and energy has been given by many to help those who lost so much and this effort continues.

The best in all of us came through in helping one another. After all, it is the service we render to others that really brings happiness into our lives.

Mayor Daniel McArthur

Contact Information

Mayor and City Council

Daniel D. McArthur	mcarthur@infowest.com
Rod Orton	rodorton@infowest.com
Suzanne B. Allen	sallen@infowest.com
Larry H. Gardner	jmilarry@infowest.com
Gail Bunker	gbunker@dixie.edu
Robert Whatcott	whatcott@infowest.com

City Manager

Gary S. Esplin	gesplin@infowest.com
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City Services

Administration	634-5800
Airport	634-5822
Animal Shelter	634-5829
Building	674-4223
Business Licenses	674-4240
Conservation	986-4432
Community Arts	634-5942
Economic Development	674-4418
Engineering	674-4287
Fire	634-5844
Leisure Services	634-5850
Parks	634-5869
Planning	674-4206
Police	634-5001
Public Information	674-4267
Public Works	674-4287
Recorder	674-4203
Recreation Center/Programs	634-5860
Sand Hollow Aquatic Center	634-5938
Streets	634-5825
Suntran	673-8726
Utilities	674-4270
Water/Energy Emergencies	634-5835
Water/Energy Conservation	986-4432

For emergencies please call 911

City Meetings

City Council

Regularly scheduled city council meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays each month starting at 4:00 pm at the City Office Building (175 East 200 North) unless otherwise noticed. Work meeting sessions are held on the second, fourth, and fifth Thursdays at the same location.

Planning Commission

Regularly scheduled planning commission meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month starting at 5:00 pm at the St. George City Office Building unless otherwise noticed.

For more information on city services, contact information, and events please visit the city website at

www.sgcity.org