

Flood prevention study coming

Public kickoff meeting is set for Feb. 19

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The 2014 summer floods in Prior Lake and surrounding areas caught residents and local governments a little off guard.

A seven-month flood mitigation and storm water management study kicks off in February, led by the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District with help from the city of Prior Lake and Spring Lake Township. Barr Engineering has been hired to manage the project.

By the time the study is completed in August, watershed district and city officials hope to have a plan to prevent and minimize future flooding.

At its peak, Prior Lake shattered records by reaching nearly 907 feet in early to mid-July, causing flood cleanup nightmares for homeowners and a no-wake status on the lake for most of the boating season.

A public kickoff meeting for the study is planned for 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19 at Prior Lake City Hall, 4646 Dakota St. Attendees will learn more about the project and have an opportunity to talk with representatives and offer their ideas.

As the planning process continues, future public meetings will address specific results and recommendations.

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