Environment Agency issues Severe Flood Warning for Ironbridge, Shropshire

Press release

Residents in flood-risk areas urged to evacuate with support from police and council.



- Severe Flood Warning issued for Ironbridge, Shropshire due to immediate threat of flooding
- High river levels the result of back-to-back storms and continued heavy rain

The Environment Agency has issued a Severe Flood Warning for Ironbridge, Shropshire due to extremely high river levels on the River Severn that are threatening to over-top flood barriers.

Properties along The Wharfage in Ironbridge are at a very high risk of flooding as fast-flowing water from the River Severn is expected to flood the area later today.

The Agency deployed temporary flood barriers along The Wharfage at the weekend, which are expected to divert the majority of the flood water. However, there is still a high risk that some water will breach the top of the defence.

The Environment Agency issues Severe Flood Warnings when there is imminent risk of flooding and threat to life. Residents are strongly urged to evacuate their homes in advance of the flood and are being supported by the police and councils.

Environment Agency Area Duty Manager for Shropshire Jim Kitchen said:

We are facing a significant flood risk in Ironbridge and urging people to remain vigilant and take extreme care. Heavy rain, affecting already wet areas, is likely to cause significant river flooding along the River Severn for several days. We have teams out on the ground taking preventative action and we are working with other agencies to support people who need to evacuate their homes.

We advise people to stay away from swollen rivers and not to drive through flood water as just 30 centimetres of flowing water is enough to move your car.

Residents are urged to sign up to Environment Agency Flood Warning messages and to make sure they are prepared for flooding by following the 'Prepare, Act, Survive' guidance:

- Prepare a bag that includes medical and insurance documents
- Check the latest flood situation online
- Know how to turn off your gas, electricity and water
- Check your insurance to make sure you are covered for flood damage. If you rent your home, it is your responsibility to have insurance for your belongings
- If you are flooded, call 999 if in immediate danger and follow advice from emergency services.

Published 21 February 2022