

U.S. Geological Survey  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## News Release

Upon Receipt  
March 19, 2008

Gary Johnson

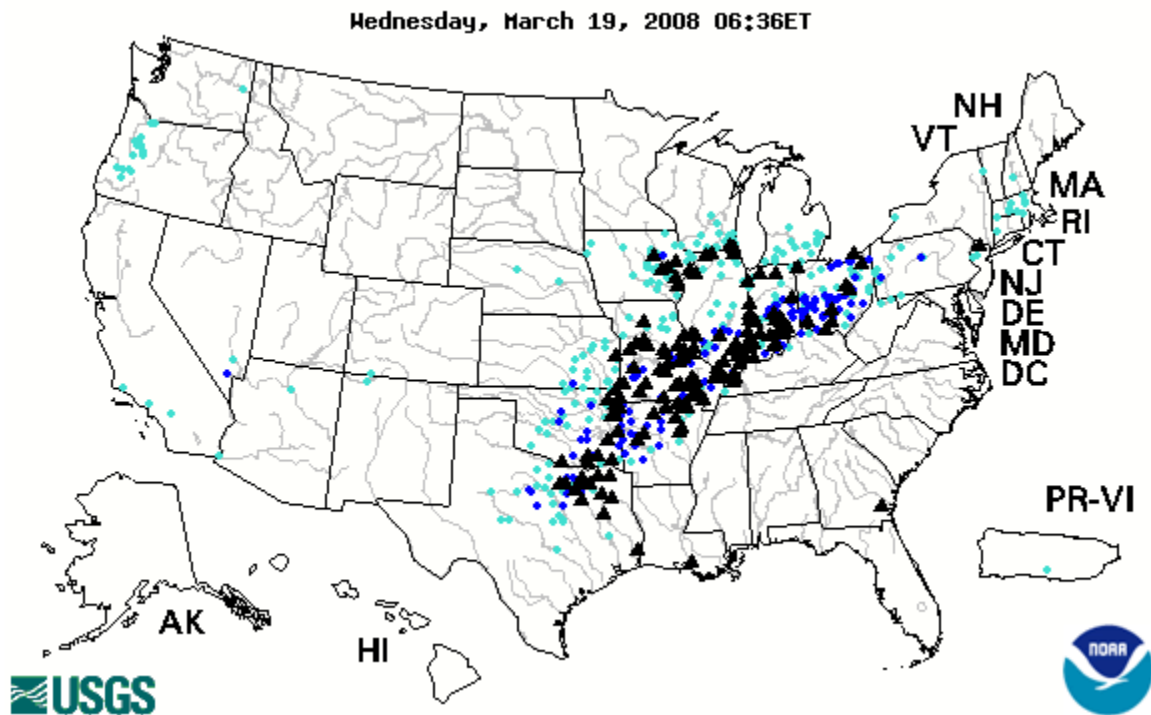
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### USGS Sends Crews in Illinois to Measure Flooding Flooding is affecting much of Southern Illinois

**Reporters: Want to accompany a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) field crew as they measure flooding? Please contact Gary Johnson, 217-344-0037, ext 3009.**

Heavy rainfall of up to 6 inches in southern Illinois has caused major flooding in some areas. This morning river and stream levels were above flood stage at many USGS streamflow-gaging stations. More rainfall is predicted for today. USGS crews will be out today through Friday collecting flood data needed for flood forecasts.



Map of USGS streamflow-gages with water levels above flood stage

Teams of USGS hydrographers are preparing to travel to streamflow-gaging stations to keep station instruments operating and to verify streamflow data needed for National Weather Service (NWS) flood forecasts. USGS personnel have worked closely with federal, state, and local agencies during the flood to provide flood information for emergency managers, the media, and the public. The USGS is maintaining a Web page that provides flood updates, photographs, and links at: <http://il.water.usgs.gov/flooddata/view.cgi?date=20080318>

The USGS operates a network of more than 180 stream gages throughout Illinois and provides this real-time information to the NWS where it is used for flood forecasting and to notify emergency managers. Field personnel collect data, or the gages relay it through telephones or satellites to offices where it is processed automatically in near real time. In many cases, the data are available online within minutes.

For more information on USGS flood-related activities, please see: <http://water.usgs.gov/osw/>

USGS Water Science Centers are located in each state. They can provide more detailed information on stream conditions and on the USGS response to local events:

[http://water.usgs.gov/district\\_chief.html](http://water.usgs.gov/district_chief.html)

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