

Historical Data

Throughout the years, Bradford County has been prone to flooding, with some being severe. Major flooding occurred during the 2017 landfall of Hurricane Irma. In fact, Suwannee River Water Management District’s monitoring stations at Alligator Creek, Sampson River, and Graham, as well as others in nearby counties, registered historic high data during that event.

Sampson, Crosby, and Rowell lakes all exceeded their flood stages, damaging homes and displacing residents. According to a Bradford County Emergency Management After-Action Report from Hurricane Irma, rainfall totals were estimated to be in excess of 18 inches. Due to lakeside flooding, approximately 16 residents of the Sampson Lake area were evacuated/rescued by the Bradford County Sheriff’s Office and The Florida National Guard via HWRVs (High Water Rescue Vehicles). Major flooding occurred in three different apartment complexes located within the city limits of Starke: Heritage Village Apartments, Orangewood Apartments, and Pine Forest Apartments.



File Photo – Bradford County Emergency Management – Hurricane Irma Flooding

Flood Occurrences

According to a records search of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), there have been 12 events documented in Bradford County regarding flooding. The data found indicates the following flood events since January 1, 1950:

| LOCATION | DATE |
|-----------------|-------------|
| COUNTYWIDE | 2/17/1998 |
| COUNTYWIDE | 3/1/1998 |
| LAWTEY | 10/4/2004 |