

### Riverine/Stream Erosion

Bradford County is home to numerous rivers and streams. In fact, the majority of the Western border on the county is made up of the Santa Fe River and New River. In addition to several smaller creeks, the county is dissected by Alligator Creek, Water Oak Creek, and Sampson River. These waterways are an integral part of Bradford County’s water basins and also attract homesites and recreation. However, as with any river or stream, Bradford County is subject to riverine/stream erosion.

Defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as the “collapse, undermining or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water”, erosion can contribute to the hazards face by many structures built along waterways. Erosion can cause loss to both land or development, with the worst case scenario being structural collapse. Riverine erosion can, and in the past has, contributed to damage of paved roads, along with other infrastructure.



Roadway damage cause by erosion due to flooding during Hurricane Irma, 2017 – Bradford County File Photo

Riverine Erosion can possibly occur in the county as the result of floods and heavy rains. The Santa Fe River binds Bradford County to the northwest side of the county by the New River and to the south of the county. Numerous smaller rivers and streams are located within the county making the areas closer to the rivers more susceptible to riverine erosion.

The loss of soils due to riverine erosion under paved roads, bridge abutments and approaches, bridge pilings and other structural pilings, can cause structural failures that endanger public safety. Washouts of boat ramps can restrict access for emergency personnel. Riverine