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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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URGENT: Edgewater Valley College Activates Emergency Response Protocol as Flooding Concerns Rise

College officials monitor the Edgewater River and urge students, faculty, and staff to follow safety guidance

EDGEWATER, Wyoming — With the Edgewater River rising after sustained heavy rainfall, Edgewater Valley College is taking steps to protect its students, faculty, and staff from potential flooding.

The college has activated its emergency response protocol and is closely monitoring conditions.

The college's emergency management team is coordinating with campus safety, residence life, student affairs, and academic departments to prepare for changing conditions.

College officials are reviewing campus facilities and access points near the river and are preparing for further action should water levels continue to rise.

Any changes to campus operations, residence-hall procedures, or class schedules will be communicated through official college channels. The updates are available at edgewatervalley.edu/floodwater. College officials encourage students to access text and email alerts through the Campus Safety Notification System to stay informed.

College leaders recognize that the possibility of flooding may be stressful for students, families, faculty, and staff. The college is committed to keeping the community informed and providing support throughout the situation. The safety of students, faculty, and staff remains the college's highest priority. Dr. Eliza Bennett, president of Edgewater Valley College, said, "We are taking this threat with the utmost seriousness. Our emergency management team has been working around the clock to monitor the situation and ensure that every student has the resources they need to stay safe."

Because river conditions can change quickly, the college will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as new information becomes available. "While there is no immediate threat to campus buildings, conditions can change quickly," said Jordan Patel, director of campus safety and emergency services. "We urge everyone in our college community to take precautions and follow all official instructions closely."

Students, faculty, staff, and families should rely on **official college communications** for accurate information and the latest emergency instructions when making decisions about their safety. Official updates will be shared through the following channels:

- **Campus email**
- **Text alerts (opt-in required)**
- **Social media: @EdgewaterCollege (X, Instagram, Facebook)**
- **Website: edgewatervalley.edu/floodwater**
- **Emergency Hotline: (555) 428-7737**

Students who are concerned about their safety, housing, transportation, or academic responsibilities are encouraged to contact the appropriate campus office for assistance. Dr. Jean Austin, interim dean of students, said, "We know this is a time of high stress and that extreme caution is needed. We are committed to protecting the well-being of every student and following up daily using our college network. We encourage students to reach out quickly with details of their needs."

Students living in residence halls are encouraged to prepare a basic emergency kit containing a flashlight, bottled water, non-perishable snacks, necessary medication, a power bank, and an ID should an evacuation become necessary. Temporary shelter will be available in the Athletic Complex and Humanities Hall (ground floor). Transportation will also be arranged for students with mobility or medical needs.

The college understands that these emergency preparations may affect students' ability to attend classes, complete assignments, or access campus resources. Faculty are advised to prepare for remote instruction if conditions require changes to normal

operations. Students should check the course portals and campus email for updates from their instructors regarding class meetings, assignments, and deadlines.

The college urges students, faculty, staff, and families to rely on **official college communications** for accurate information and emergency instructions. For the latest updates, visit edgewatervalley.edu/floodwater, monitor campus email and text alerts, or call the Emergency Hotline at (555)428-7737. Students seeking emotional support may also contact the Counseling Center, which is offering expanded emergency hours and walk-in appointments.

For more information, visit edgewatervalley.edu/floodwater.

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About Edgewater Valley College
Edgewater Valley College is a higher education institution in Edgewater, Wyoming, focused on connecting education with the real world. Through hands-on projects, experiential learning, and practical application, students have opportunities to apply classroom knowledge and develop skills relevant to their chosen careers. The college prepares students to approach real-world challenges with confidence, adaptability, and purpose.

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