

As a group, read the provided material about Human-Environment Interaction. Then use the provided news articles to answer the following questions. There should be enough articles for each student to read their own and answer the questions on their own.

Questions to answer after the students have read.

1. Name the city the event took place or the closest city if not specified.
2. Briefly describe the event.
3. Will this event affect the whole state? Explain why or why not in 1-2 sentences.
4. How will the event affect other local people?
5. How does this event show the interaction that occurs between humans and our environment? Answer in 2-3 sentences.

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#1 Water advisory expected to be lifted for all Clinton residents

August 9, 2014

CLINTON — Davis County Health Department officials lifted a water advisory for residents who live east of 2000 West and those in the area south of 1800 North following good chlorine-level tests.

However, people situated west of 2000 West and north of 1800 North remain on a water-advisory notice Saturday.

The areas where the advisory is still in effect have not yet achieved the chlorine residual and bacteriological results required by the state and county health departments, officials said.

Officials said chlorine is making its way through nearly 80 miles of water line and testing continues before a clearance for the entire city will occur, which they anticipated announcing Saturday morning.

A limited amount of bottled water was available for residents affected by the advisory at the Clinton City Fire Department, located on 1500 West at 2153 North.

"Be advised you will notice an increase in the amount of chlorine you taste and smell in the drinking water for the next few days as the higher levels, required to clean the system, work their way through and out of the system," officials said in a press release.

"Thank you for bearing with us through this event and understanding that the city crews are working hard to clear the pipes and deliver the quality of water you expect," they added in the statement.

Businesses on each side of 2000 West were notified individually of an applicable advisory by health department officials.

Officials also offered precautionary guidelines for when the water advisory is lifted.

Races on salt flats postponed while salt dries out

August 7, 2014

BONNEVILLE SALT FLATS — The Southern California Timing Association has postponed its speed week activities after heavy rainfall left the flats damp.

The semi-annual event has been put on hold while standing rainwater dries on the flats where races occur, according to JoAnne Carlson, media liaison for Bonneville Nationals. Water was about 1-inch deep on the courses, but deeper in lower areas, including the pits, which were covered with water about “ankle-deep” Thursday afternoon.

SCTA has pushed back the racing 24 hours, though the event could be further delayed following inspection Thursday afternoon, she said. More rain was forecast for Friday, and if it drops too much moisture on the course, the event would likely be canceled, she said.

“If that drops too much moisture, we might have to cancel the meet. But we’re hoping that will pass over, and maybe we will get some drying,” Carlson said. “If we’re lucky we’ll be racing by Monday.”

While most of the people that have come out to watch are from Salt Lake, Carlson said, there were 544 pre-entries for Speed

Week, with 11 countries represented. There are about 80-100 organizers who are waiting, some sitting in their cars.

“It’s a major disappointment for all of us. We’ve never seen anything like that in August. Not on the salt flats,” Carlson said.

"It's unfortunate. We have a lot of people coming from my team," Keith Copeland of Black Salt Racing said. "But we're still hopeful that it's an event that they're going to be able to have."

The Bureau of Land Management told people to stay off the access road and avoid camping in the mud while the salt dries and heals. Law enforcement officers were patrolling the area, turning around vehicles on the road until further notice, the BLM said in a release.

Water tests positive for E. Coli in Clinton

August 6, 2014

CLINTON — Officials are advising residents of Clinton to avoid drinking water from the city system after samples tested positive for E. Coli Wednesday.

The advisory was issued as a precaution while officials wait for further test results to determine whether or not the water is contaminated, according to Clinton Public Works Director Mike Child. He said the repeat samples are expected to come back

Thursday afternoon.

"In the meantime, we've put out an advisory asking our citizens to take a precaution and act as though it is contaminated by drinking bottled water or boiling it," he said.

The water may have been contaminated by a cross-connection where a resident connected a line of irrigation water to the drinking water system at their home, according to investigators. The irrigation water was disconnected and officials said they have begun disinfection procedures.

No other cities were affected by the possible contamination.

There is not yet a boiling order in place for the city, but if there is E. Coli in the water it can be killed by boiling, Child said. He suggested residents avoid using water to wash their hands as a precaution and instead use hand sanitizer while officials wait for the test results to come back.

City officials said they are not aware of anyone who has become sick from drinking the water.

The irrigation water in Clinton is untreated and comes directly from the river, according to Child.

"Anything that is near that river, whether it be a ranch or whatever flows into the river, can possibly contaminate it," he said.

"The irrigation water is not safe to drink anytime."

Flooding in Washington Terrace damages homes, forces 1 evacuation

August 5, 2014

WASHINGTON TERRACE, Weber County — About 1 inch of rain in a 45-minute span caused one home to be evacuated and around eight to 10 others to experience minimal to moderate water damage Tuesday, a city official said.

City manager Tom Hanson said the downpour didn't back up the infrastructure of the drainage system, but it was inundated to the point that officials couldn't keep up with the amount of water.

"It came in hard, it came in strong and just opened up on us," Hanson said.

An elderly couple was taken to the community center after their home was evacuated, and the center remained open in case more families were displaced, Hanson said.

Red Cross accommodated the couple, and the city recreation director was with them before their family arrived to pick them up.

Mayor Mark Allen told Hanson that he doesn't recall a weather event that compares to the storm and subsequent flooding occurring in Washington Terrace.

Numerous upgrades have been made to the city's drainage system over the past 10 years, Hanson said, but officials needed the help of the community to aid residents.

Neighbors of the people experiencing flooding pumped water from inside houses and in front of doors, he said.

"When it comes right down to it, it's the neighbors helping neighbors that's going to make the difference," Hanson said. "As we noticed today, we can't be everywhere at the same time. You have to rely on each other and you have to support each other in these events to make it all work out."

Hanson said the city is focusing on cleaning the streets — removing debris from flower beds and rock gardens, cleaning gutters, catch basins and grates on detention ponds — so the water can drain.

Mountain goat attacks dog on Mt. Timpanogos, hiker says

August 4, 2014

MOUNT TIMPANOGOS — A woman whose dog was injured by a mountain goat while hiking Mount Timpanogos on Sunday was able to coax the dog back down the mountain after search and rescue crews decided not to respond to a request for help.

The woman was hiking on the Aspen Grove Trail in Provo Canyon when the dog encountered a mountain goat and was reportedly injured. The woman's mother contacted the Utah County Sheriff's Office, requesting that search and rescue personnel help bring the dog down. Crews did not respond, however, due to prioritization protocol, according to Utah County Sheriff's Sgt. Spencer Cannon.

The dog was later examined by a veterinarian and is expected to recover. Such wildlife encounters, especially with mountain goats, are rare, according to Cannon.

"The problem is we can't always dedicate resources to a situation like that," he said. "We all love animals, and nobody wants to see an animal suffer. But if we were in a situation where we had to choose between helping them or helping a person, we would obviously choose to help the person.

"The ironic thing is last night the thing we were concerned about actually did come about," Cannon said.

Search and rescue crews were called the same evening to assist two adults and three children who were stranded on a boat in the Mud Lake area of Utah Lake. The group was in an area where water was shallow but underlying mud was deep, making any attempt to walk to shore "really difficult and dangerous to do," Cannon said.

Crews used jet skis to transport the people on the boat to the main part of the lake, where they were transferred to a state parks boat and taken ashore.

The group was successfully rescued after a five-hour operation, but extricating the boat will be the owner's responsibility, according to Cannon.

"Unfortunately, in cases like this, we don't rescue equipment. We don't rescue animals," he said.

Search and rescue operations can be lengthy and complex, sometimes involving around 20 personnel members in the effort,

Cannon said. Some weekends result in several rescue operations going on simultaneously in Utah County. For that reason, resources have to be allocated prudently, he said.

"We have to draw the line someplace, and not everybody likes where we draw it, but it has to be done," Cannon said.

Highland deer management program yielded 33K meals for homeless

August 3, 2014

HIGHLAND — Highland is approaching the second season of its two-year urban deer control pilot program, which officials said was "a resounding success" in its first year.

City officials began researching ways to manage a growing urban mule deer population about four years ago in order to mitigate damage to residential property and from vehicle-wildlife collisions.

An archery harvesting program was approved by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and the Highland City Council last summer, and a select group of specialists began harvesting deer from four designated areas during the fall months.

In its first year, the program harvested 74 deer, which yielded more than 5,500 pounds of ground venison. Most of the meat was donated to local homeless shelters, providing enough for more than 33,000 meals, according to program coordinator Brian Cook.

"It was a resounding success — absolutely unbelievable," Cook said.

Prior to its implementation, the program was met with mixed reactions from community members, ranging from enthusiastic support to outright opposition.

A petition censured the program as "highly dangerous, unnecessary, and inhumane," and argued that it "poses a severe threat to the safety of all people, (including our children), and pets, and encourages trespassing by armed hunters onto the private property of homeowners."

City officials are calling much of the petition inaccurate, and the concerns it has raised have since made communicating the benefits of the program difficult for those involved, according to Councilman Rod Mann.

"I think it's great when residents get excited about an issue and voice their views. I just want to make sure that their views are fully informed," he said.

Some residents, like Linda Walton, feel that the precautions taken in the program and its potential benefits have been understated from the beginning.

"I think they need to have a really good communication plan that isn't just throwing it on the website and having a meeting that no one comes to," Walton said. "They need to clarify the different advantages."

The City Council held meetings, as well as an open house on July 30, 2013, to discuss the program with community members,

4 homes still at risk from landslide that crushed home

August 5, 2014

NORTH SALT LAKE— Families in homes along a hillside here remained displaced following a massive landslide that crushed one house, damaged a tennis and swim club, and placed other homes directly in harm's way Tuesday morning.

Evacuations for three families could be in place for a week or longer as daylong emergency work began Tuesday. A total of 27 homes had been evacuated throughout the day.

Many residents were allowed to return to their homes Tuesday evening but were cautioned the earth may continue to move.

Crews must wait for the area to dry out from persistent rain storms that battered the area Monday and Tuesday before a more permanent solution is found.

"They're welcome to come back in, but they need to understand there still are risks out there, that it could move," said Barry Edwards, North Salt Lake city manager. "We didn't anticipate last night that we would be here today, and though the weather may be a little more predictable today, just be aware that if they come back in to be careful, be vigilant."

Four houses, one of which is vacant, remained particularly at risk — three alongside the badly damaged home on Parkway Drive, and a fourth house on Parkway Circle, Edwards said.

The slide buckled and crushed a home near 739 Parkway Drive. Next door to the home, the Eagle ridge Tennis and Swim Club was also damaged. Officials shut down access to Eagle ridge Drive leading up to the scene.

The family whose home was destroyed declined to comment Tuesday.

The top of the hill where the landslide occurred is about 200 yards above the base of the tennis court, where a portion of rock and soil about 500 feet wide sloughed off the hill and came to rest behind the home and the tennis club.

A home is destroyed and a tennis club damaged by a slide in North Salt Lake, Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2014.