



Sturgis Hydroelectric Project
Public Notice
Drawdown of the Sturgis Dam Reservoir

The City of Sturgis will begin a drawdown of the reservoir area upstream of the Sturgis Dam and Hydroelectric Plant on the St. Joseph River near Centreville, Michigan - **THE DRAWDOWN WILL START ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026**. This drawdown is expected to impact the river by lowering water levels in an area from the dam approximately 5 miles upstream just East of the town of Mendon, Michigan.

The reservoir will be drawn down three feet over the course of several days, with a maximum drawdown rate of six inches per day. Individuals with boats or other watercraft docked on the river should make necessary arrangements to move or secure these craft as the drawdown is expected to significantly lower the water level upstream of the dam.

The process of returning the impoundment to its normal level will not begin until repairs to the embankment are complete. The repairs are anticipated to begin in the spring of 2027 and are anticipated to take 6 to 9 months to complete. Affected residents should be aware that this project is subject to delays from circumstances out of our control which would prolong the drawdown. As part of this process, another notice will be sent out to affected residents making them aware of the refilling process.

If you have any questions regarding the drawdown, please contact Chris McArthur at (269) 659-7298. Thank you for your understanding.