

Property Owner Notes on Road Closures on Old Alton Road

Denton County has high water gates on all roads leading into the Hickory Creek bottoms to restrict access when road surface in the bottoms is overrun by Lake Lewisville or Hickory Creek flooding. When the Hickory Creek bottoms has flooded previously, water never gets within ¼ mile of the 1515 Old Alton Rd property boundaries. **Lewisville Lake & Hickory Creek flooding presents absolutely NO DANGER to this property.**

The house foundation at 1515 Old Alton Road was built above the 500 year FEMA flood elevation. This link **FEMA Elevation Certificate and FEMA Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA)** provides evidence that the structure has been removed from FEMA's base flood zone. The foundation elevation 548.7 ft. above sea level, which is **12 ft. above the highest water level ever attained in Lewisville Lake history.**

Unrelated to Lake Lewisville or Hickory Creek flooding described, Old Alton Road will sporadically close for a few hours when the flow capacity of the poorly designed culvert crossing at Loving Creek is exceeded causing overrun onto the road surface. Loving Creek flows in a northerly direction into Hickory Creek. This short intermittent creek originates near the intersection of FM407 and Jeter Road in Bartonville. The total Loving Creek watershed is only 7 square miles, primarily encompassed within the Lantana development.

The Loving Creek culvert restriction issue creates a temporary retention ponding effect on the south side of Old Alton Road when flow capacity is exceeded. The road's elevation creates a shallow ponding in the low parts of the pasture while the retention is being drained. Over 34 years of property ownership, road closures due to the culvert restriction average once or twice a year, with many years experiencing no closures. The Red Barn was intentionally located where it is not susceptible to the retention ponding.

The owner has continually made request of Denton County Road & Bridges to upgrade the crossing with a span bridge to eliminate the runoff restriction.

The hydraulic calculations of the culvert crossing at Old Alton Road that were prepared by a Halff Associates hydraulic engineer depicting the culvert design issue. By comparing the flow capacity of this culvert design versus an open channel flow indicate the current culvert design creates an **85% blockage of the water flow** at full flow capacity

In 2011, FEMA produced a study of the flooding potential on the entire Loving Creek watershed. This report provides peak water volumes (CFS) for many points along Loving Creek for a potential 10yr, 50yr, 100yr & 500yr flooding event. **Comparing this report to flow data indicates a span bridge would eliminate future road closures and all flow restriction.**

The property owner and neighbors met with Road & Bridges West, the County Engineer and the Precinct 4 County Commissioner on the crossing issue. With increased traffic volumes and the relocation of Selwyn School (less than one mile away), our group is hopeful an upgrade will happen in the near future.