

THERE'S NO WORD YET FROM THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT, ON WHETHER OR NOT THEY'LL REBUILD THE DAM THAT FAILED OVER THE WEEKEND, DRAINING A JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP LAKE. THE LAKE NEAR THE CORNER OF RUMSEY ROAD AND WAY ROAD IS KNOWN LOCALLY AS THE "DUCKPOND"--IT APPEARS ON MAPS AS "LAKE NUMBER FIVE". HEAVY RAIN OVER THE WEEKEND PUSHED THE DAM AT THE WEST END OF THE LAKE TO THE BREAKING POINT, CAUSING A 40-FOOT WIDE GAP, AND SENDING A WALL OF WATER THROUGH THE WOODS DOWNSTREAM...IT WASHED OUT A SHORT SECTION OF WAY ROAD...ROAD COMMISSION CREWS HAVE CLOSED THE ROAD, WEST OF THE LAKE ENTRANCE. ALL THAT REMAINS OF THE POPULAR FISHING SPOT IS A SMALL STREAM IN THE LAKE BED, AND YEARS OF DEBRIS, INCLUDING A FEW SUNKEN BOATS. COUNTY ROAD MANAGER STAN CLINGERMAN SAID TWO BRIDGES DOWNSTREAM ESCAPED SERIOUS DAMAGE...HE SAID WATER REACHED THE DECK OF THE BRIDGE AT READING ROAD—CLINGERMAN SAID WATER AT THE MILLPOND DAM AT PITTSFORD ROAD MAY HAVE BEEN AT HIGHEST LEVEL EVER RECORDED, REACHING THE SPILLWAY...BUT THE DAM DIDN'T SUSTAIN ANY SERIOUS DAMAGE.

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