

# Flooding forces Ottawa County Museum to temporarily close

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The Facebook profile photo for the The Ottawa County Museum.

## PORT CLINTON

Baseball games sometimes get rained out and, apparently, it happens to history museums, too.

The Ottawa County Museum at 126 W. Third St. in Port Clinton is closed until July 10 so the museum can carry out carpet cleaning and minor repairs following the recent flooding in Port Clinton, museum curator Peggy Debien said. The cost isn't expected to be huge, and no artifacts were damaged.

The museum gained valuable experience during a previous big storm event, Debien said. "Several years ago, we had a lot of rain within two hours," she said. There were people there, so all of the artifacts were carried out. "When we put things back, we put them so that nothing that could be harmed was on the floor," Debien said.

When the museum reopens next week, it will operate again under its usual summer hours: Noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, with free admission. The museum is run by the Area Heritage Foundation of Port Clinton and receives no government funding, Debien said. "We have artifacts all related to the history of Ottawa County," Debien said.

The collection includes artifacts from Native Americans, early settlers, farmers, commercial fishing, the military (including the Battle of Lake Erie and the Bataan Death March), materials from local businesses, a firearms collection and more, Debien said.