

FLOOD RISK



SACRAMENTO COUNTY STORMWATER UTILITY | DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

CUBS #3676 | FALL 2025

BE AWARE... BE PREPARED

Winter is upon us, do you know your risk of flooding and measures you can take to reduce flood risk?

Do You Live in a Flood Zone?

There are several ways to find out if you live in a flood zone:

1. Visit www.stormready.org and click on "Flood Zone Information".
2. Call the Flood Zone Hotline at (916) 874-7517. Include your parcel number, address, and contact information.
3. You can email us directly at wrfloodinfo@sacounty.gov. Include your parcel number, address, and contact information.
4. You can view floodplain maps at the County's Public GIS at

<https://generalmap.gis.sacounty.gov/JSViewer/FEMA.html>.

5. Call (916) 874-7517 or email wrfloodinfo@sacounty.gov to schedule an appointment. We are located at 827 7th Street, Room 102, in downtown Sacramento. Our hours are weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. You can view the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and other local flood hazard information. General flood insurance questions can be answered or explained at this location.

INFORMATION UPON REQUEST:

- Base Flood Elevation (BFE).
- Additional flood hazard information such as floodways.
- Information not shown on the FIRM such as local drainage.
- Approximate ground elevation.
- Historical flood information, which may include location of nearest high water mark, repetitive loss area, or elevation certificates on file.
- Areas that may be protected because of their natural floodplain functions.

HELP! My floor is above the base flood elevation but my flood insurance is too expensive. Sometimes adding foundation vents can lower flood insurance cost. Contact the Sacramento County Floodplain Administrator for technical advice, via wrfloodinfo@sacounty.gov.

Protect Yourself with Flood Insurance

Just a few inches of water in a building can cause tens of thousands of dollars in damage. Please make an informed decision about the flood risks you face before deciding not to purchase flood insurance.

QUICK FACTS:

- ✓ Flood insurance is the best way to protect you from devastating financial loss.
- ✓ Flood damage is not covered by standard property insurance.
- ✓ Flooding is the most common disaster in our area.

WHERE TO START:

1. Visit www.floodsmart.gov
Flood insurance is available to owners & tenants of houses, condominiums, and commercial properties (renters insurance is also available). If a flood damages your home or business, you may be required by law or ordinance to meet certain building compliancy requirements in your community to reduce future flood damage. To help with these costs, the NFIP includes Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) coverage for all eligible properties insured under the Standard Flood Insurance Policy.



2. Talk to your agent

Do you live outside of the high-risk flood area? You can still get flood insurance coverage. Contact your agent to learn more.

BUY your flood insurance now!

There's a 30 day waiting period before your policy is active.

Building in the Floodplain

The Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance requires that a permit must be obtained for construction activity or placement of fill within the FEMA floodplain or local flood hazard area. Here is what you need to remember before starting:

1. Build at least 18 inches above...

All proposed new structures or substantial improvements of existing structures must be built at least a foot and a half above the base flood elevation.

2. Check 1st before demolishing...

Some areas of the County have new flood related building restrictions that would disallow rebuilding at grade.

3. We are here to help...

Call 3-1-1 or (916) 874-7517 about obtaining a permit or to report any non-permitted floodplain activity.



BE AWARE, BE PREPARED



Protect Your Property from Flooding

Before building, consider the following flood protection measures:

- Build the lowest floor above the base flood elevation.
- Building the foundation with flood damage resistant materials.
- Raise electrical system components.
- Anchor outdoor propane tanks.
- Install sewer back-flow valves.

HELP! The floor of my home is below the floodplain elevation. There are measures you can take to reduce flood risk and there are programs that can help with the cost. Contact the Sacramento County Floodplain Administrator at (916) 874-7517 to learn more.



Drainage Issues

Call 3-1-1 or (916) 875-4311 to:

- Talk to Operations and Maintenance staff who can provide drainage advice over the phone. If staff determines additional information is needed, a site visit will be scheduled.
- Report creek or channel maintenance issues.
- Report flooding.

Know Your Flood Terms

The Sacramento County Department of Water Resources developed an [Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time \(ALERT\)](#) system that, through a network of 44 stream gauges and 80 rain gauges, collects rainfall and stream-level data, and provides website updates every 15 minutes. See this real time rain and stream gauge data and other information at www.sacflood.org.

FLOOD WATCH = BE AWARE

- ✦ Turn on TV/radio.
- ✦ Know where to go.
- ✦ Have your emergency kit ready.

FLOOD WARNING = TAKE ACTION

- ✦ Move immediately to higher ground or stay on high ground.
- ✦ Evacuate if directed.
- ✦ Avoid walking or driving through floodwaters.

Get Involved!

Sacramento County is updating its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, feel free to join by emailing wrfloodinfo@saccounty.gov.

Know the Warning Signals



To sign up to receive emergency alert information on your phone or via email from the County, please visit: www.Sacramento-Alert.org.

- **Listen for sirens** In the case of emergency, police and fire officials may use their ground or helicopter sirens and loudspeakers to alert you to necessary information about the emergency.
- **Turn on TV or radio** During large storm events, tune into a local station to find out information about emergency and evacuation routes. The emergency broadcast station for Sacramento is KFBK Radio 1530-AM



Flood Safety Tips

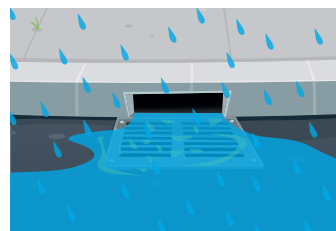
Here is what you can do to stay safe during a flood:

1. Listen to a battery-operated radio for the latest storm information.
2. Turn off all utilities at the main power switch and close the main gas valve, if advised to do so.
3. If flooding occurs, go to higher ground and avoid areas subject to flooding.
4. If you have come in contact with floodwaters, wash your hands with disinfecting soap and clean water.
5. Do not attempt to walk across flowing streams or drive through flooded roadways.

For more information on preparation and recovery, talk to your insurance agent, or visit www.stormready.org, www.ready.gov or www.floodsmart.gov.

Only Rain Down the Drain

- Keep our County litter free. Any litter you drop in the street, on the sidewalk, or in a park will likely end up in a local stream.
- Properly use and dispose of household chemicals.
- Take used oil and automotive fluids to a local service station or the Household Hazardous Waste site for recycling.
- Use eco-friendly garden products that are less toxic or non-toxic to the environment.
- Participate in local river and creek clean-up events.



See Something ~ Say Something!

Report illegal dumping into the drainage system or flooding problems to 3-1-1 or (916) 875-4311.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Sacramento County Department of Water Resources

Main Office: 827 7th Street, Room 301
Sacramento, CA, 95814

Main Phone: (916) 874-6851

Main website: www.StormReady.org

Stormwater Quality website: www.sactostormwater.org
(Search: stormwater)

RELATED LINKS

Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov

National Flood Insurance Program: www.floodsmart.gov

ALERT: www.sacflood.org

American Red Cross: www.redcross.org