

BE FLOOD READY

YOUR GUIDE TO FLOOD PREPAREDNESS IN KING COUNTY



Hello!

If you are receiving this brochure by mail, your home or property is in or near a floodplain.

KING COUNTY RIVERS MAP →



Chair Reagan Dunn

Now is the time to get flood ready!

A message from the King County Flood Control District

We are fortunate to live in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. Rain and snow help keep our surroundings green and healthy, but inclement weather also creates a risk for flooding.

Flooding is the No. 1 natural disaster in King County and the United States. Weather specialists are predicting “neutral weather” for our upcoming winter, but scientists also predict more intense and frequent storms in future years. We must be prepared to “expect the unexpected.”

The King County Flood Control District works hard to raise awareness of flood risks and the importance of emergency preparedness to help people prepare for and respond to flooding. We partner with cities, tribes, and other stakeholders to develop projects and policies that address flood hazards in our region and provide information and resources like this brochure.

Now we need YOUR HELP to keep the community safe. We all need to prepare for wet weather and the potential for flooding. Please take a few minutes to review this important information and Be Flood Ready! Here are a few things you can do:

- 1. Learn your flood risk.** Know your risk where you live, work, recreate, or regularly travel. Visit kingcounty.gov/floodmaps and scroll to “iMap floodplain boundaries” or call 206-477-4812.
- 2. Stay informed.** Get early flood warning and real-time flood information—sign up for King County Flood Alerts and download the King County Flood Warning App at kingcounty.gov/flood.
- 3. Turn around. Don't drown.** Never walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away. More than half of all flood fatalities are vehicle-related.
- 4. Obtain flood insurance.** Standard homeowners and renters' policies exclude flood damage. Visit floodsmart.gov to learn more and identify an insurance agent—don't wait, policies typically take 30 days to begin.

Floods are unpredictable and destructive. They can disrupt essential services and transportation; destroy major infrastructure and livelihoods; and in the worst cases, cause injuries and death. Don't become complacent. Keep yourself and your loved ones safe and your property and valuables protected by preparing now.

Reagan Dunn, Chair
King County Flood Control District

kingcountyfloodcontrol.org | @KCCReaganDunn



Students tour the Black River Pump Station (BRPS) in 2017 as they learn about the Springbrook Creek basin which flows to the BRPS.

Pump Station improvements to protect people, property, the environment

The King County Flood Control District is making significant upgrades to the Black River Pump Station (BRPS). This pump station provides flood risk reduction to highly developed and vital economic areas of Renton, Kent, and Tukwila.

The BRPS is a critical link in the Green River flood control system. The pump station serves as a dam to keep high tides and Green River floods out of nearby cities and communities. The BRPS also pumps flow from Springbrook Creek downstream to the Green River and works cooperatively with the levee system and Howard Hanson Dam as a critical component of flood risk reduction to the area.

Updates to the 45-year old BRPS will meet current design requirements and ensure safe, reliable, and efficient operations. Work is currently underway to replace three pump engines which are used daily, and planning has started for evaluation and improvement of the existing fish passage system.

Reliable pump operations are crucial; 2,800 acres are at risk during a severe flood event, including 370 structures in Renton, 210 structures in Kent, and approximately 60 structures in Tukwila. Learn more: kingcounty.gov/BlackRiverPumpStation.



Left to right: Project Manager Tom Bean briefs Renton City Councilmember Armondo Pavone, King County Flood Control District Chair Reagan Dunn, Renton Public Works Administrator Gregg Zimmerman, and Renton Public Works Engineer Joe Farah on a recent BRPS tour.

FREE KING COUNTY FLOOD WARNING APP

Get real-time flooding info with our free app! Monitor current river flows, river stage data, forecasts, and real-time flood phases.



FOLLOW US!

@KCFloodDistrict and @KCDNRP on Twitter, @KingCountyDNRP on Instagram, @KCWLDR on Facebook



PHONE, TEXT MESSAGE OR EMAIL

Sign up for free automated flood alerts. You can personalize alerts by river and flood phase.

**KING COUNTY
FLOOD
ALERT!**

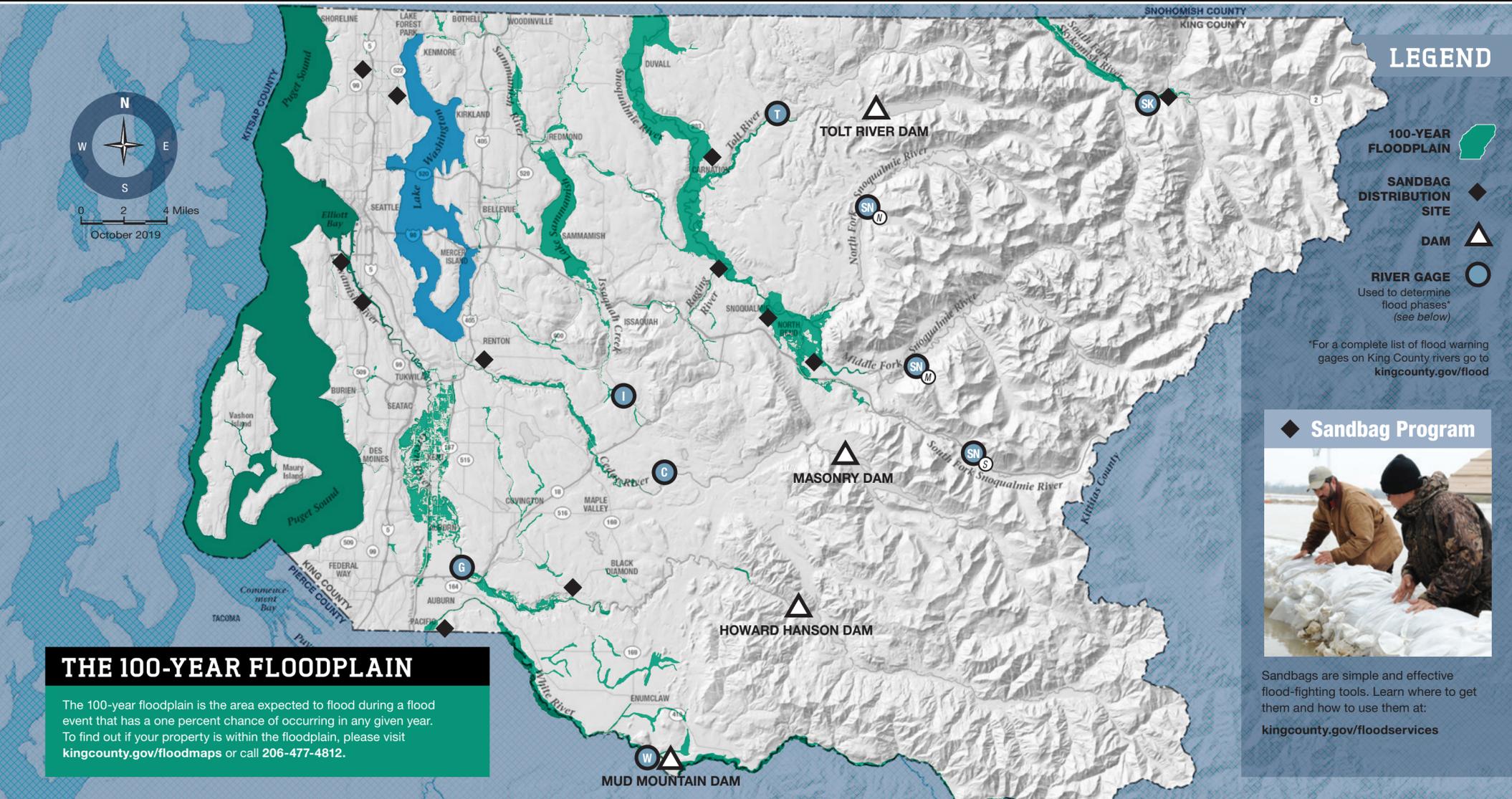
kingcounty.gov/flood or call 206-477-4899

KING COUNTY RIVER SYSTEMS

KING COUNTY FLOOD WARNING CENTER



206-296-8200 or 800-945-9263 Interpreter services available; TTY 711.
Materiales traducidos y servicios de intérprete están disponible bajo solicitud: 206-477-4812; TTY: 711.



THE 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN

The 100-year floodplain is the area expected to flood during a flood event that has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year. To find out if your property is within the floodplain, please visit kingcounty.gov/floodmaps or call 206-477-4812.

EMERGENCY FLOOD INFORMATION

- How to Prepare for a Flood**
kingcounty.gov/floodservices
- King County Emergency Alert**
kingcounty.gov/alert
- King County Emergency News Blog**
kcemergency.com
- King County Flood Alerts**
206-477-4899
kingcounty.gov/flood
- King County Flood Warning Center**
206-296-8200 or 800-945-9263
- King County Housing Repair Program**
Funding for major necessary housing repairs to low-income, eligible homeowners.
206-263-9095
kingcounty.gov/housingrepair
- King County Road 24/7 Helpline**
206-477-8100 or 800-KC-Roads
kingcounty.gov/roadalert
- King County Road Alerts**
kingcounty.gov/roadalert
- Metro Transit Disruptions**
kingcounty.gov/metro
- National Flood Insurance Program**
800-427-4661
floodsmart.gov
- Public Health Seattle & King County Septic Tank and Well Problems**
206-477-8050
- Take Winter By Storm**
TakeWinterByStorm.org



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EXPECTED FLOOD IMPACTS BY RIVER

RIVER cfs=cubic feet per second	RECENT PEAK	PEAK FLOOD	PHASE 1 - NO FLOODING. No flooding typically occurs.	PHASE 2 - MINOR FLOODING. King County Flood Warning Center staff are available 24 hours a day to provide assistance.	PHASE 3 - MODERATE FLOODING. King County Flood Patrol staff are dispatched to monitor flood protection facilities, such as levees.	PHASE 4 - SEVERE FLOODING. Flood patrols monitor conditions and the Flood Warning Center remains open.
SK SOUTH FORK SKYKOMISH RIVER Flow at City of Skykomish	19,100 cfs Nov. 2017	Flow data not available at this location before Oct. 2016.	6,000 cfs King County staff are on alert.	10,000 cfs Riverbank erosion and flood debris problems are possible.	18,000 cfs Riverbank erosion and flood debris are likely. Flooding likely to occur in low-lying areas near Baring and the west end of Timberlane Village.	27,000 cfs Widespread flooding may include areas typically protected by levees.
T TOLT RIVER Flow near City of Carnation	13,800 cfs Jan. 2009	17,400 cfs Dec. 1959 Before construction of Tolt River Dam.	2,500 cfs King County staff are on alert.	3,500 cfs Levee on south bank between Snoqualmie Valley Trail Bridge and Highway 203 Bridge may experience seepage.	5,000 cfs Water across Tolt River Road NE in the vicinity of the former San Souci neighborhood. Increased seepage and potential backyard flooding at levee on south bank between Snoqualmie Valley Trail Bridge and Highway 203 Bridge.	8,500 cfs Levees may overtop near the City of Carnation. Flows from seepage at the levee on the south bank between Snoqualmie Valley Trail Bridge and Highway 203 Bridge may cross NE 32nd Street. Channel changes may occur between upstream extent of Tolt River Road NE/361st Avenue NE and the eastern boundary of Carnation.
SN SNOQUALMIE RIVER Sum of: N North fork M Middle fork S South fork	54,110 cfs Jan. 2009		6,000 cfs King County staff are on alert.	12,000 cfs Roads that may overtop include Neal Road SE, Reing Road, West Snoqualmie River Road NE (Walker Road), Snoqualmie Meadowbrook Road, and Mill Pond Road.	20,000 cfs Flooding of varied depth occurs in the entire Snoqualmie Valley. Roads that may overtop include Fall City-Carnation Road, Tolt Hill Road, and Novelty Flats Road.	38,000 cfs Some residential areas may experience dangerously high velocities and flooding of homes. Roads that may overtop include Woodinville-Duval Road, Carnation-Duval Road, and Moon Valley Road.
I ISSAQUAH CREEK Height (stage) near Hobart Data: City of Issaquah	9.9 ft Nov. 1990		6.5 ft King County staff are on alert. Issaquah Public Works and Police Department are notified. Standby monitoring begins.	7.5 ft Localized flooding in flood-prone areas. A few street closures due to water on roadway. Frequently flooded areas can expect flooding. Issaquah Public Works Operations Department begins flood fighting activities.	8.5 ft Considerable flooding on Issaquah Creek, Tibbetts Creek, and the East Fork of Issaquah Creek. Flooding possible in many creekside areas. Issaquah Public Works' full flood fighting effort in effect.	9 ft Extensive flooding, similar to January 2009, or greater throughout Issaquah and Tibbetts Creek valleys. Issaquah Public Works' maximum flood fighting effort in effect.
C CEDAR RIVER Flow near Landsburg	7,870 cfs Jan. 2009	14,200 cfs Before construction of Masonry Dam.	1,800 cfs King County staff are on alert.	2,800 cfs Lower Dorré Don Way SE may overtop and close.	4,200 cfs Roads may overtop and close, including SE Jones Road near 156th PI SE, SR 169 near the intersection of Cedar Grove Road SE, SE 184th St, Byers Road SE, 216th Ave SE, SE 193rd St, SE 207th St, Lower Dorré Don Way SE, Dorré Don Way SE, and SE 238th St. Several of these roads provide access to neighborhoods where residents may become trapped and require evacuation.	5,000 cfs Roads may overtop and close, including SE Jones Road near 156th PI SE, SR 169 near the intersection of Cedar Grove Road SE, SE 184th St, Byers Road SE, 216th Ave SE, SE 193rd St, SE 197th St, SE 206th St, SE 207th St, SE Bain Road, Dorré Don Ct SE, Lower Dorré Don Way SE, Dorré Don Way SE, SE 238th St, and 244th Ave SE. Several of these roads provide access to neighborhoods where residents may become trapped and require evacuation. Deep and fast flows can create dangerous conditions throughout the floodplain.
G GREEN RIVER Measured or expected flow near City of Auburn	12,200 cfs Nov. 2006	28,100 cfs Nov. 1959 Before construction of Howard Hanson Dam.	5,000 cfs King County staff are on alert.	7,000 cfs Lowland flooding in the valley upstream of the City of Auburn.	9,000 cfs Flooding of varied depths occurs in the valley upstream of the City of Auburn and lower Mill Creek basin. Southeast Green Valley Road and West Valley Road may overtop.	12,000 cfs Critical flood control levees may weaken from saturation. Sudden changes in flood conditions are possible, especially in levee-protected areas. These changes may include rapidly rising water, widespread inundation, road closures, and utility disruptions.
W WHITE RIVER Measured or expected flow released from Mud Mountain Dam	11,700 cfs Jan. 2009 Based on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' data from Mud Mountain Dam.	28,000 cfs Dec. 1933 Reported at White River near Buckley before construction of Mud Mountain Dam.	4,000 cfs King County staff are on alert.	5,000 cfs Overbank flooding is possible upstream of the A-Street Bridge in the Cities of Pacific and Auburn. Overbank flooding is likely to occur in Pacific near Government Canal. High water will likely occur along the temporary flood protection barriers.	7,000 cfs High river water levels will occur along the temporary flood protection barriers in the City of Pacific. Overtopping flows will likely occur at Government Canal and Butte Avenue and upstream of the A-Street Bridge in the Cities of Pacific and Auburn. Red Creek area residents may experience dangerously high velocities, debris flows, and residential flooding.	9,000 cfs Dangerously high velocity and debris flows may occur throughout the river system. Overbank flooding is expected in the Cities of Pacific and Auburn. Portions of the temporary flood protection barriers may overtop. Damages may occur at the fish hatchery near the City of Enumclaw. Floodwater is likely to overtop SR 410 upstream of Mud Mountain Dam near Greenwater.

WHEN IT FLOODS...

Be prepared! Get details about flooding at kingcounty.gov/floodservices

BEFORE

1 Know your flood hazard. If you were mailed this newsletter, your home or property is in or near a floodplain. Learn more at kingcounty.gov/floodmaps or call 206-477-4812.

2 Buy flood insurance. Standard homeowners insurance does not cover loss caused by flooding, and there can be a 30-day waiting period on new flood insurance policies.

Learn more at floodsmart.gov or call 800-427-4661.

3 Protect yourself and your family.

- Update emergency plans for your family, farm, or business and choose a meeting place in case family members get separated.
- Know several routes from your home or business to high ground.
- Use sandbags to protect your home or property (see inside map for free distribution locations).
- Pick an out-of-state friend or relative to call with information if local lines are busy.
- Assemble an emergency kit (see below).
- Talk to neighbors about flood preparedness, previous experiences, and any special assistance you or they may need.

4 Protect your property and pets from flood hazards.

- Move vehicles, equipment, livestock/pets to higher ground and store valuables and household chemicals above flood levels.
- Anchor and secure propane tanks and other fuel containers.
- Install check valves in building sewer traps to prevent flood waters from backing up in sewer drains.
- Never dump waste in storm drains; dispose of litter and animal waste in trash cans; and sweep sidewalks, gutters, driveways and other paved surfaces. Clean storm drains require less maintenance and help keep our rivers and streams clean for drinking, wildlife, and recreation.

REGISTER FOR ALERTS

Visit kingcounty.gov/flood to sign up for alerts for different river systems in King County.

DURING

1 Do not walk, wade, or drive through flooded areas. Turn around. Don't drown.

2 If your vehicle stalls in a flooded area, abandon it as soon as possible. Walk back the way you came to safety.

3 Call the King County Flood Warning Center at 206-296-8200 or 800-945-9263 for information on flood conditions and forecasts.

4 Be prepared for an evacuation notice from authorities. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Follow recommended evacuation routes, as shortcuts may be blocked.

5 If you are unable to safely leave your home or a building due to rapidly rising waters, call 911 for help. Then move to a higher floor or to the roof. Take warm, weatherproof clothing, a flashlight, a mobile phone, and a portable radio.

6 When flooding is imminent, but only if time permits:

- Close your main gas valve.
- Turn off all utilities in your building at the main power switch. Do not touch any electrical equipment unless it is in a dry area or you are standing on a piece of dry wood while wearing rubber-soled shoes and rubber gloves.
- Record flood statistics such as time, gage reading, and local flood elevations for future use in understanding flooding in your neighborhood. Include specific observations at your home or business.

NEED HELP?

Call 206-477-4812 if you need help looking up a property, need to confirm your property is in the floodplain, or want more information about elevation certificates.

AFTER

1 Before re-entering your home, be cautious of potential structural damage, gas leaks, electrical shorts, and live wires.

2 Have a professional check your heating system electrical panel, outlets, and appliances for safety before using. Call the gas company to have the gas turned back on.

3 Follow procedures for safe clean-up of household items, food, water supply, and property.

4 Document your losses. Photograph damages and record repair costs. Contact your insurance agent for flood loss claims.

5 Mark the high water point in your home or damaged structure.

6 Pump out flooded basements gradually (about one-third of the water per day) to avoid structural damage.

7 Do not dump sand from sandbags into creeks as it impairs water quality. Store for future use.

8 Check your local news outlets for updates on disaster assistance and registration procedures.

Build Responsibly

Any development in the floodplain needs a permit. New construction, building repairs, additions, excavation, grading, fill, or any other change to your property must be permitted and follow the standards in your community's floodplain management regulations. Any repairs or improvements to buildings in the floodplain that exceed 50 percent of their value are required to be elevated or flood-proofed.

Building responsibly ensures that people and buildings are safer from flooding. Floodplain management regulations make our flood-prone areas less dangerous for all who live and work there by reducing each development's impact on other properties.

Before starting a project or to report illegal development, contact your jurisdiction's permitting agency or the Department of Local Services, Permitting Division at 206-296-6600 or go to kingcounty.gov/permits.

Emergency Kit Supplies

More at: TakeWinterByStorm.org



- Battery or crank-operated radio and extra batteries
- First aid supplies and a whistle
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Copies of important documents in a plastic bag (driver's license, insurance and bank information, and contact information)
- Several days' worth of water and non-perishable food for your family and animals
- Warm clothing, sturdy shoes/boots, and blankets
- Personal hygiene and sanitation supplies
- Prescription medicines
- Comfort items for children (blanket, books, toys)
- Cell phone chargers