WHEN IT FLOODS...

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 RiskSmart.gov or call 800-427-4601.

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 (free inside near flood 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 valuable assets and household chemicals above flood levels.
   - Anchor and secure propane tanks and other fuel containers.
   - Install check valves in building entrance pipes 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 clean sump sumps, 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.

5. Contact the King County Flood Warning Center at 206-296-6600 or go to kingcounty.gov/flooded for updates on the floodplain. Learn more at TakeWinterByStorm.org.

REGISTER FOR ALERTS

Visit kingcounty.gov/flood to sign up for alerts for different areas 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 206-296-6200 or 800-945-9263 for information on flood conditions and forecasts.

4. Be prepared for an evacuation notice from authorities. If ordered 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 water, stay there 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 dry wood floor 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 building up a property, need to confirm your property is in the floodplain, or want to learn about information or resources, including:

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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.


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 sandbags from sandbags into creeks or storm drain inlets. Damage storm drain systems and flood control structures.

8. Check your local news outlets for safety tips, helpful resources, and flood-related weather information.

9. 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 10% of their original value are required to be elevated or flood-proofed. Building responsibly ensures that people and buildings are safe from flood damage. 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 community’s permitting agency or the Department of Local Services, Permitting Division at 206-6800 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 medication
   • Comfort items for children (blanket, books, toys)
   • Cell phone chargers

FREE KING COUNTY FLOOD WARNING APP

Get real-time flood information with our free app! Monitor current river flows, river stage levels, forecasts, and receive flood phase information.

FOLLOW US!

@KCWLRD on Twitter and @KCGRNDP on Instagram, @KingCountyGRNDP on LinkedIn, @KCWLRD on Facebook. Materiales traducidos y servicios de intérprete están disponibles bajo solicitud. 206-477-4812; TTY 711.

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3. Turn around. Don’t drown. Never walk, swim, or drive through flooded 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 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.

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

King County
Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resource Division

Stay informed:

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

Alternative formats available. 206-477-4812 (TTY Relay: 711)
**KING COUNTY RIVER SYSTEMS**

**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.

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**EXPECTED FLOOD IMPACTS BY RIVER**

**SOUTH FORK SKYKOMISH RIVER**
Flow near City of Snoqualmie
- **RECENT PEAK:** 20,000 cfs Nov. 2006
- **PHASE 1 - NO FLOODING:** King County Flood Warning System staff are available 24 hours a day to provide assistance.

**TOLT RIVER**
Flow near City of Carnation
- **RECENT PEAK:** 10,000 cfs Jan. 2009
- **PHASE 1 - NO FLOODING:** King County Flood Warning System staff are available 24 hours a day to provide assistance.

**SNOQUALMIE RIVER**
- **SN** Sun of Holcomb Falls, **SN** North Fork of Skagit River, **SN** South Fork of Skagit River
- **RECENT PEAK:** 34,110 cfs Jan. 2009
- **PHASE 1 - NO FLOODING:** King County Flood Warning System staff are available 24 hours a day to provide assistance.

**ISEAGHAN CREEK**
Flow through area near Island City of Issaquah
- **RECENT PEAK:** 6.5 ft Nov. 1969
- **PHASE 1 - NO FLOODING:** Issaquah Public Works and Police Department are notified. Standing monitoring begins.

**CEDAR RIVER**
Flow near downtown Issaquah
- **RECENT PEAK:** 7,870 cfs Jan. 2009
- **PHASE 1 - NO FLOODING:** Issaquah Public Works and Police Department are notified. Standing monitoring begins.

**GREEN RIVER**
Measured or expected near Auburn
- **RECENT PEAK:** 16,200 cfs Nov. 2006
- **PHASE 1 - NO FLOODING:** Issaquah Public Works and Police Department are notified. Standing monitoring begins.

**WHITE RIVER**
Measured or expected near Mount Rainier
- **RECENT PEAK:** 11,700 cfs Dec. 1959
- **PHASE 1 - NO FLOODING:** Issaquah Public Works and Police Department are notified. Standing monitoring begins.

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**EXPECTED FLOOD IMPACTS**

**SANDBAG PROGRAM**
Sandbags are simple and effective flood fighting tools. Learn where to get them and how to use them at: kingcounty.gov/floodservices

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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 800-427-4601.

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 (use inside water 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).
   • Tell neighbors about floodplain preparation precautions, and any special assistance you or they may need.

4. Protect your property and pets from flood hazards.
   • Move vehicles, equipment, livestock, poles to higher ground and store valuable and household chemicals above flood levels.
   • Anchor and secure propane tanks and other fuel containers.
   • Install check valves in building sewage traps to prevent flood waters from backing up in sewer drains.
   • Never dump waste in storm drains; dispose of oil and animal fat in trash cans; and never store gasoline, 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 areas in King County.

During
1. Do not walk, wade, or drive through flooded areas. Turn around. Don’t drown.
2. Before 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 206-258-6200 or 800-945-9263 for information on flood conditions and forecasts.
4. Be prepared for an evacuation notice from authorities, if needed 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 the roof. Take your 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 dry wood floor 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.

7. Call the King County Flood Warning Center at 206-258-6200 or 800-945-9263 for updates on flood phases.

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

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

10. Do not dump sand from sandbags into creeks and gutters as it will contribute to flooding. Keep sand for future use or turn it toward the high ground.

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

Need Help?
Call 206-477-6412 if you need help building up a property, or need to confirm your property is in the floodplain, or went from information about a previous evacuation.

After
1. Before re-entering your home, be cautious of potential mudslide 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. Have 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.


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King County
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Water and Land Resource Division

Alternative formula available. 206-477-4893 (TTY Relay: 711)
Materiales traducidos y servicios de intérprete están disponibles bajo solicitud, 206-477-4912; TTY 711

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3. Turn around. Don’t drown. Never walk, swim, or drive through flooded 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.

5. 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.

The Black River Pump Station (BRPS) pumps water out of the Black River Floodplain. 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 water from Springbrook Creek downstream to the Green River and works cooperatively with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to maintain river gauges in the area. Reliability 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.

Students and Black River Pump Station (BRPS) Staff members take part in a field trip along the Vern Froelich Trail at King County’s Tukwila Stormwater Park. The BRPS is a critical link in the Green River flood control system.

King County Flood Control District
3516 Third Ave. Room 1200 • Seattle WA 98114

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