



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE WA
PERMIT NO 6013

2012 - 2013

FLOOD UPDATE

Flood Warning Information for Major Rivers in King County

New in this issue:

- Are your pets safe in a flood?
- Help us update King County's Flood Plan
- Take our online survey
- King County Rivers Facebook page

Flood preparedness tools on the Web:

- Real-time river gage data
- Automated flood alert subscription
- Floodplain maps and photos
- Sandbag distribution locations

www.kingcounty.gov/flood



Flooding on the Middle Green River 2012

Planning for your animals in an emergency: They're counting on you

Planning for your cat, dog, horse or other furry, feathered or scaly animals in a flood event is a critical part of preparing for flood season.

First, make sure all pets have an identification tag with their name, your name, your address and mobile number where you can be reached. A King County license tag can provide identifying information, as well.

Next, identify a location where your pet would be welcomed if you need to leave your property and you can't keep animals with you. Find out if local extended family or friends can accommodate you and your animals during an emergency and check the web for pet friendly lodging in your area. Regional veterinary clinics or other pet boarding facilities should be contacted prior to an emergency to explore your options. Identify alternative pastures if you have livestock and do not have a farm pad or elevated structure for them.

Emergency responders all too often see animal owners attempting to return to their home in an emergency to rescue animals left behind, despite danger. This puts animals, owners and rescue personnel at risk. So make your plan today for every family member to leave early and safely when it floods.

For more information about disaster planning and pet care, visit www.kingcounty.gov/pets.



FYI: King County is updating its Flood Plan

Just like you, we have a plan. But our flood plan is a few pages longer than yours and takes more time to update. We want to make sure we hear from you, so we're holding three public meetings in December and will provide a draft plan for your feedback, prior to finalizing it in early 2013.

The King County Flood Plan lays out contemporary strategies to reduce flood risks to tens of thousands of people, billions of dollars in economic infrastructure and major transportation corridors. The update will cover emerging issues such as levee certification, vegetation management along rivers and considering social justice and project prioritization. If you would like to be on our Flood Plan Update email notification list, please call 206-296-8001 or send an email to: WLR-rivers@kingcounty.gov. For more information go to: www.kingcounty.gov/floodservices.

Save the date: Flood Plan update open house

- Tuesday, Dec. 4 - Carnation
- Wednesday, Dec. 5 - Renton
- Thursday, Dec. 6 - Auburn

Tell us how we're doing!

What do you think about King County's flood risk reduction services?

Take our online survey at www.kingcounty.gov/floodservices.
Survey ends November 30.



FOLLOW
KING COUNTY
RIVERS ON
FACEBOOK

Sign up today to receive automated flood alerts by phone, text message or email when a river near you starts to flood.

www.kingcounty.gov/flood
206-263-3400

**King County
FLOOD
ALERT**

Este folleto contiene información importante sobre inundaciones en el King County. Favor de llamar al 206-296-8001 para solicitar un intérprete para su traducción.

The King County Flood Warning Center: At your service

When river levels begin to rise, the King County Flood Warning Center opens and is staffed 24 hours a day to coordinate and distribute information until the rivers recede.

Our Flood Warning Center staff is available to take your calls about flood conditions in your area, provide you with real-time flood information and answer your flood-related questions. We have the latest information about road closures, sandbag distribution, dam releases, flood predictions, evacuation orders and emergency services.

A critical part of flood response is our King County flood patrol staff who routinely inspect riverbanks, levees and occasionally private property for potentially dangerous conditions. They travel in King County vehicles and wear safety gear so they can be easily seen and identified. Patrols report back to the Flood Warning Center and can investigate concerns identified by residents.

So keep this number handy if you need our help during a flood: King County Flood Warning Center: 206-296-8200 or 800-768-7932. Or go to www.kingcounty.gov/flood.

Building in a floodplain? What you need to know

You may know a floodplain is an area that stores water during a flood event and reduces the frequency, severity and duration of surface water flows. But did you know that floodplains also recharge our groundwater supply and provide habitat for diverse species of plants and animals – some of which cannot live anywhere else?

That's why certain activities, such as building construction, repairs or improvements and grading, excavation and fill require a permit. Repairs or improvements to an existing structure that exceed 50 percent of its value are required to be flood protected and meet regulatory standards. Contact the King County Department of Development and Environmental Services for more information or to report potential illegal development at 206-296-6600 or visit www.kingcounty.gov/ddes. If you live in an incorporated area, please contact your local jurisdiction.

King County Flood Warning Center: 206-296-4535 or 800-768-7932. www.kingcounty.gov/flood



Alternative Formats Available

206-296-8001 (TTY Relay: 711)

Printed on recycled paper. Please recycle.
1209_2769_FloodWarnBro.ai mdev, skrau

EMERGENCY FLOOD INFORMATION

EMERGENCY KIT SUPPLIES

American Red Cross
206-323-2345 or 360-377-3761
www.seattlredcross.org

How to Prepare for a Flood
www.kingcounty.gov/floodservices

King County Flood Alerts
206-263-3400
www.kingcounty.gov/flood

King County Flood Warning Center
206-296-4535 or 800-768-7932



King County Flood Warning Information Line
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
www.kingcounty.gov/housingrepairs

King County Office of Emergency Management - Shelter Information
206-296-3830

King County Road 24/7 Helpline
206-296-8100 or 1-800 KC Roads
www.kingcounty.gov/roadalert

King County Road Alerts
www.kingcounty.gov/roadalert

Metro Transit Disruptions
www.kingcounty.gov/metro

National Flood Insurance Program
888-379-9531
www.floodsmart.gov

Public Health - Seattle & King County - Septic Tank and Well Problems
206-296-4932

Take Winter By Storm
www.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 information, family bank and other contact information)
- Several day supply of water and non-perishable food for your family and animals
- Warm clothing, sturdy shoes/boots and blankets
- Personal hygiene and sanitation supplies
- Any prescription medicines
- Comfort items for children (blanket, books, toys)

King County's Flood Warning Phases

- PHASE 1:** No flooding typically occurs. King County staff are on alert for a possible flood event.
PHASE 2: Minor flooding. The King County Flood Warning Center opens and 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, in person.
PHASE 4: Severe flooding. Flood patrols continue to monitor conditions and the Flood Warning Center remains open.

Flood Phases by River

cfs = Cubic Feet per Second – a measure of the volume of water (in cubic feet) that flows past a specific river location each second.

RIVER	PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	PHASE 4	RECENT PEAK	PEAK FLOOD
Cedar River <i>Flow near Landsburg</i>	1,800 cfs	2,800 cfs	4,200 cfs	5,000 cfs	7,870 cfs Jan. 2009	14,200 cfs Nov. 1911
Green River <i>Measured or expected flow near Auburn</i>	5,000 cfs	7,000 cfs	9,000 cfs	12,000 cfs	12,200 cfs Nov. 2006	28,100 cfs Nov. 1959
Snoqualmie River <i>Sum of the North, Middle and South forks</i>	6,000 cfs	12,000 cfs	20,000 cfs	38,000 cfs	54,110 cfs Jan. 2009	
Tolt River <i>Flow near Carnation</i>	2,500 cfs	3,500 cfs	5,000 cfs	8,500 cfs	13,800 cfs Jan. 2009	17,400 cfs Dec. 1959
White River <i>Flow released from Mud Mountain Dam</i>	5,000 cfs	8,000 cfs	10,000 cfs	12,000 cfs	11,700 cfs Jan. 2009*	28,000 cfs Dec. 1933**
Issaquah Creek - Height (stage) near Hobart <i>Determined by the City of Issaquah based on river height (stage)</i>	6.5 ft.	7.5 ft.	8.5 ft.	9.0 ft.	9.31 ft. Nov. 2006	

* Based on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers data on flow releases from Mud Mountain Dam.

** Reported at White River near Buckley.

Expected Flood Impacts by River

RIVER	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	PHASE 4
Cedar River <i>Flow near Landsburg</i>	2,800 cfs Jones Road near 156th Place SE may overtop and close.	4,200 cfs Lower Dorre Don Way and Byers Road SE may overtop and close. These roads provide access to several neighborhoods where residents may become trapped and require evacuation.	5,000 cfs Additional roads may overtop and close including Cedar Grove Road SE, Maxwell Road SE and SR-169 near the intersection with Cedar Grove Road SE. Dead end streets may overtop and close including Jan Road SE (SE 197th Street), SE 203rd Street, SE 206th Street, and SE 207th Street. Fast and deep flows can create dangerous conditions throughout the floodplain.
Green River <i>Measured or expected flow near Auburn</i>	7,000 cfs Lowland flooding in the valley upstream of Auburn.	9,000 cfs Flooding of varied depths occurs in the valley upstream 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 exhibit seepage and/or weaken from saturation.
Snoqualmie River <i>Sum of the North, Middle and South forks</i>	12,000 cfs Lowland flooding. Roads that may overtop include Neal Road SE; Reinig 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 dangerous high velocities and flooding of homes. Roads that may overtop include Woodinville-Duval Road, Carnation-Duval Road, and Moon Valley Road.
Tolt River <i>Flow near Carnation</i>	3,500 cfs San Souci area homes may be inaccessible; 353rd Avenue NE may experience high water depths and velocities where side channels cross the road. The levee on the south bank between Snoqualmie Valley Trail bridge and Highway 203 bridge near 323rd Place SE may experience seepage.	5,000 cfs Increased water depth and velocity over 353rd Avenue NE in San Souci area; water across Tolt River Road NE in vicinity of San Souci neighborhood. Increased seepage and potential backyard flooding at the levee on the south bank between Snoqualmie Valley Trail bridge and Highway 203 bridge near 323rd Place SE.	8,500 cfs Levees may overtop near Carnation. Flows from seepage at the levee on the south bank between Snoqualmie Valley Trail bridge and Highway 203 bridge near 323rd Place SE 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.
White River <i>Flow released from Mud Mountain Dam</i>	8,000 cfs Red Creek area residents may experience overtopped roads and high water. Overbank flooding in the City of Pacific may occur.	10,000 cfs Red Creek area residents may experience dangerous high velocities, debris flows and residential flooding. Overbank flooding is likely to occur in the City of Pacific.	12,000 cfs Floodwater is likely to overtop SR-410 upstream of Mud Mountain Dam near Greenwater. Overbank flooding is likely to occur in the City of Pacific and near the City of Auburn. Dangerous high velocities and debris flows may occur throughout the river system. Damages may occur at the fish hatchery.

Before a flood

1. Know if you are in a flood prone area.
Go to: www.kingcounty.gov/iMAP.
2. Find out the flood risk of your property.
Go to www.floodsmart.gov.
3. Buy flood insurance. Standard homeowners insurance does not cover loss caused by flooding and there is a mandatory 30-day waiting period on new National Flood Insurance Program policies.
4. Update emergency plans for your family, farm or business.
 - Know several safe routes from your home or business to high ground.
 - Establish meeting places in case family members are separated.
 - Designate an out-of-state contact to call if local lines are busy.
 - Assemble an emergency kit (see above).
5. Talk to neighbors about flood preparedness, previous experiences and any need for special assistance.
6. Minimize potential flood damage.
 - Move vehicles, equipment, livestock or pets to higher ground.
 - Store valuables and household chemicals above flood levels.
 - Seal and secure underground storage tanks.
 - Get sand and sandbags ahead of time and learn how to use them effectively.
 - Install check valves in building sewer traps to prevent flood waters from backing up in sewer drains.
 - Keep street drains, storm grates and flap gates free of leaves and other debris.
 - Maintain flood channels. Report illegal dumping: 206-296-SITE or 1-866-431-7483.

During a flood

1. Do not walk, wade or drive through flooded areas.
2. Monitor local news outlets for emergency updates.
3. Be prepared to evacuate. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.
 - If your vehicle stalls in a flooded area, abandon it as soon as possible and walk to safety in the direction you came from.
 - Follow recommended evacuation routes, as shortcuts may be blocked.
4. 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.
5. 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.

After a flood

1. Before re-entering your home, be cautious of potential structural damage, potential 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 highest point where water was 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. Remove and empty sandbags properly.
8. Check your local news outlets for updates on disaster assistance and registration procedures.



Flood fighting with sandbags

Sandbags can prevent or reduce flooding on your property by creating a flood barrier and diverting water. You can purchase sandbag materials from hardware stores and sandbag suppliers in advance. During a flood event, call the King County Flood Warning Center to find out if free emergency sandbag supplies are available. After a flood, you must remove sandbags in compliance with your local jurisdiction's regulations. Sandbag information is also available at www.kingcounty.gov/flood.