**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.

**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.

**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. Contact 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 sand from sandbags into creeks or waterways. Do not dispose of sandbags and used floodwater in the public right of way.

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

**NEED HELP?** Call 206-477-4612 if you need help building a property, need to confirm your property is in the floodplain, or want to learn about a specific certificate.

**Prepare 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 front cover 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 preinvasive experiences, and any special assistance you or they may need.

**Protect your property and pets from flood hazards.**

- Move vehicles, equipment, livestock 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 eaves trappers 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 spare sump, sump, gutters, driveways and other paved surfaces.
- Clean storm drains to ensure maintenance and help keep our rivers and streams clean for drinking, wildlife, and recreation.

**Build responsibly** ensures that people and buildings for all who live and work there by reducing each community’s flood risk and impact on other properties.

- Reduce your community’s flood risk 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.

- Floodsmart.gov

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 “May floodplain boundary” 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 downloaded 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.

Flooding is the No. 1 natural disaster in King County and the United States. 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.

- kingcounty.gov/flood

When flooding is imminent, but only if time permits:

- Turn off all utilities in your building at the main power panel.
- Install check valves in building eaves trappers to prevent flood waters from backing up in sewer drains.
- Use sandbags to protect your home or property (see inside front cover for free distribution locations).
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- Install check valves in building eaves trappers to prevent flood waters from backing up in sewer drains.
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- Clean storm drains to ensure maintenance and help keep our rivers and streams clean for drinking, wildlife, and recreation.

- **Drainage** improves stormwater detention capacity, and reduces flooding and stream/river flow. A message from the King County **Flood Control District**. We are working hard 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.

- kingcounty.gov/flood

**Flood smart!**

- kingcounty.gov/flood

**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.

- kingcounty.gov/flood

**FLOOD ALERT!** Information and resources are available at kingcounty.gov/flood.

- kingcounty.gov/flood

**Stay informed**

- kingcounty.gov/flood

- kingcounty.gov/flood
**King County Flood Warning Center**

How to Prepare for a Flood

King County Flood Warning Center

**King County Emergency Alert**

King County Flood Awareness Blog

**King County Flood Alerts**

206-477-4899

**King County Housing Repair Program**

Funding for major necessary housing repairs to low-income, eligible homeowners.

206-363-9205

**kingcounty.gov/floodservices**

To find out if your property is within the floodplain, please visit [kingcounty.gov/floodmaps](http://kingcounty.gov/floodmaps).

**SANDBAG PROGRAM**

Sandbags are simple and effective flood-fighting tools. Learn where to get them and how to use them at: [kingcounty.gov/floodservices](http://kingcounty.gov/floodservices).

**EMERGENCY FLOOD INFORMATION**

**206-296-8200**

**800-945-9263**

**kingcounty.gov/floodservices**

**kingcounty.gov/alert**

**kingcounty.gov/floodservices**

**kingcounty.gov/roadalert**

**King County Road 247 Helpline**

206-477-8100 or 800-KC-Roads

**King County Road Alerts**

kingcounty.gov/roadalert

**Metro Transit Disruptions**

[Seattle & King County Metro](http://www.metro.org/)

**King County FLOOD WARNING CENTER**

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[Seattle & King County Metro](http://www.metro.org/)

**National Flood Insurance Program**

800-427-4661

[fiis.com](http://www.fius.com)

**Public Health Seattle & King County**

Septic Tank and Well Problems

206-477-8050

**Take Winter By Storm**

[TakeWinterByStorm.org](http://www.TakeWinterByStorm.org)

**Sandbag Program**

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