

City of Auburn
25 W. Main Street
Auburn, WA 98001

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**Important flood awareness
information enclosed!**

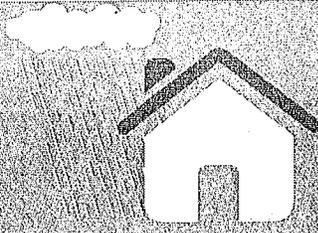
**SOMETIMES WHEN IT
RAINS, IT POURS...**



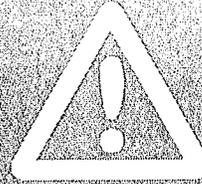
**AND SOMETIMES WHEN IT
POURS, IT FLOODS.**



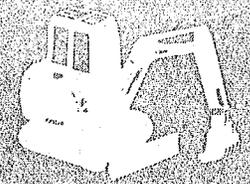
Keep storm drains clear



Protect your home and property



Know the flood warning system



Obtain necessary permits

Help Prevent Localized Flooding in Your Neighborhood

The simple act of clearing leaves and debris away from storm drains and ditches near your property will allow rain water to drain better. Remember, only rain down the drain. It is illegal to dispose of grass clippings and other yard waste into drainage areas. Take advantage of Auburn's curbside yard waste collection service or compost and mulch leaves and grass clippings. If we keep pollutants and debris from flowing into our storm drains, we'll do our part to keep our natural waters clean and prevent localized flooding.

Protect Your Home from Flood Damage

Here are some things you can do to reduce flood damage:

- Elevate electrical panel boxes, furnaces, water heaters and washers/dryers or move them to areas less likely to flood.
- Make sure that gutters and downspouts are clear and working properly to direct water away from your home's foundation.
- Have sandbags, plastic sheeting and lumber handy to help minimize flood damage.
- If a flood warning is issued, move essential items and furniture to the upper floors of your home or to higher locations if time allows.

Consider Purchasing Flood Insurance

The City participates in the National Flood Insurance Program which provides discounted flood insurance rates to Auburn property owners. Standard homeowner's insurance does not cover losses due to floods. Contact your insurance agency or visit the Flood Smart website at www.floodsmart.gov for more information. Discounted rates are listed on the site.

Know the Flood Warning System

Flood warnings are issued by the National Weather Service. The City monitors these warnings and coordinates evacuations, if necessary, through our Emergency Operations Center (EOC). If an evacuation order is issued, the City will alert residents through various methods: Emergency Broadcast messages on local TV and radio stations, Code Red Alerts to your phone, e-mail, text message, social media postings and, if necessary door-to-door warnings. All landlines are in the Code Red database but you may register as many additional phone lines and emails as you wish. Visit Auburnwa.gov/codered to add phone numbers and email addresses.

Don't Drive Through Flood Water

If you come upon a flooded roadway, take a detour. Don't underestimate the force and power of water; a flood could have caused the roadbed to collapse, and even water that doesn't look deep or fast flowing can still sweep your vehicle away. Be especially careful at night when flood dangers are hard to recognize.

Development in Flood Hazard Areas

Flooding can occur in low lying areas called floodplains when the Green or White Rivers, or streams such as Mill Creek, overflow. Floodplains provide a beneficial function by holding the water until it moves downstream or soaks into the ground. This is nature's way of slowing down the flow of water, restoring nutrients into the soil, maintaining water quality and recharging ground water. However, because floodplains are also places of flood hazard, they are regulated by the City. The City requires a Floodplain Development Permit for any clearing, grading, or construction in flood hazard areas. This includes any improvements or repairs to existing structures where the cost of the improvement or repair equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the structure before the work occurs. If you are planning any work in a flood hazard area, or if you know of unapproved development that has occurred in the floodplain, or unapproved changes that have been made to a drainage system such as filling, or rerouting of streams or ditches, please contact the Auburn Permit Center at 253-931-3020, and select option #1.

Want More Information?

To find out if your property lies within an identified flood hazard area call the Auburn Planning Department at 253-931-3090. To learn more about flood preparedness, call the Auburn Emergency Management Division at 253-876-1925 or email emergencyprep@auburnwa.gov.