

Your Stormwater Utility

Know your property. It is important to know your home's specific flood elevation. Elevation certificates can usually be found with your home's closing or mortgage documents. The City of Hollywood Records and Archives Division can provide copies of flood elevation certificates issued since December 15, 1991 for a small fee. Call Records and Archives at 954.921.3585 to make a records request or go online to [https://hollywoodfl.mycusthelp.com/WEBAPP/_rs/\(S\(cyobextvgbrsjnkof01ifle5\)\)/supporhome.aspx](https://hollywoodfl.mycusthelp.com/WEBAPP/_rs/(S(cyobextvgbrsjnkof01ifle5))/supporhome.aspx). Hollywood staff can also help you understand your local flood maps and special hazard areas, FIRM (Food Insurance Rate Map) zones, elevation certificates and other important flood-related information such as historical or repetitive flood problems, natural floodplain functions and protected coastal barrier areas. For more information on a property located in the City of Hollywood, please email your street address to averea-feria@hollywoodfl.org or call the Division of Engineering & Construction Services (ECSD) at 954.921.3930. You can also visit ECSD Staff on the 3rd Floor of City Hall (in the Building Division area) Monday thru Thursday 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. for additional information. FEMA Flood maps are available online at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

Protect your property. Flood damage is not covered by homeowner policies. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) therefore recommends everyone have flood insurance. Flood insurance from the NFIP can cover damage to your home or business but contents coverage is separate. Renters can also insure their contents so whether you rent or own, make sure to ask your insurance agent about contents coverage. There is usually a 30-day waiting period before coverage goes into effect, so plan ahead! To find out more about obtaining flood insurance, call your insurance agent or visit www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program.

There are also many ways to minimize or even prevent property damage before a flood occurs. Grading your property, elevating and securing electrical appliances, placing all low-lying electrical fixtures on separate electrical circuits, and using flood-resistant materials on exterior surfaces are some possibilities. Elevating or covering furniture and valuables can also help minimize damage. To learn more, please visit www.floods.org or www.floodsmart.gov.

Build responsibly. Planning to make improvements or major repairs to your home? Make sure to get the proper permits and advice; poor planning can cause big problems later. Homes in designated flood or coastal high hazard areas may be required to include special flood protection measures. This may include raising the elevation of the structure if damages or the cost of improvement are $\geq 50\%$ of the structure's market value. If you are interested and have any questions, our City offers flood protection advice and financial assistance guidance. Please contact the City of Hollywood Floodplain Engineer at 954.921.3930 for more information or a site visit.

Protect yourself and family from flood dangers and other potential disasters. Local weather and flood warnings are available through a variety of radio, televised, online, and phone application ("app") sources. The City of Hollywood provides critical emergency information via the City's website at www.hollywoodfl.org, CodeRED notifications, Notify Me email notifications, on social media and on the Public Access Cable Channel. Regardless of apparent conditions, depth of flood waters can be very difficult to determine—do not ever walk or drive through flowing or standing water! Also avoid skin contact with storm flood waters, as sewage from overflowing lines could be present in the puddles. Be alert for small animals that are flushed out by flooding conditions and may bite when disturbed. Avoid downed power lines and electrical wires

and turn off the power in your house if it becomes flooded. This includes all propane gas tanks and lines. Do not smoke or use candles or open flames until you are sure no gas leaks exist. Be sure to ventilate enclosed areas if gas may be present.

The previously mentioned warning systems are also used by the City to inform residents of potential dangers of hurricanes and other threats, but don't wait until a hurricane watch or warning has occurred to prepare. You can find the annual hurricane planning guide by searching for "Hurricane Guide" at www.hollywoodfl.org. You can call Broward County's Emergency Management Hurricane Hotline at 954.831.4000 or by dialing 311. For non-emergency safety concerns or questions, call the Hollywood Police Department's non-emergency number at 954.764.4357.

Protect our environment. It is illegal to throw anything in lakes, canals, Intracoastal, ocean or other waters. Dumping, spilling or discharging any non-stormwater material to any surface area or storm water management system is also prohibited. A clean drainage system, including open ditches and catch basins, is essential to a safe and healthy environment. Hollywood cleans all catch basins at least annually. You can help maintain our storm drainage system by keeping your yard and swale area free of leaves, brush, paper and other debris.

Save our swales. Swales are the strips of land between the sidewalk and the street, usually in front of the property. Swales should always be lower than the pavement to allow proper drainage from the roadway. Homeowners are required to maintain their swales to help protect our waterways and prevent flooding. Help us keep the waters and streets of the City of Hollywood clean. If you witness any dumping of material into storm drains or waterways, please call the Regulatory Compliance Office at 954.921.3414.

MAP OF HOLLYWOOD FLOOD ZONES

