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## **Snohomish County Offers Resources to Help You Prepare for Flood Season**

*Online resources provide information on flood risks, preparedness and recovery*

**EVERETT, Wash., October 2, 2018** – Flood season typically begins in fall and runs through the winter months. To help you get ready, Snohomish County has developed numerous resources that you can access before, during, and after a flood event. Snohomish County Surface Water Management (SWM), the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and Planning and Development Services (PDS) all provide information and tools related to flood preparedness and recovery. These resources focus on topics such as flood risks, real-time flood information, and steps you can take to protect your family and home from flooding.

### **Resources Provided by Snohomish County Public Works Surface Water Management (SWM):**

- a. Annual Flood Safety Guide – This guide provides information on a wide range of flood-related topics, such as researching your property’s flood risk, protecting your home from flooding, preparing for a flood, what to do in the event of a flood, and steps to recover from a flood. Download a copy at: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6787>
- b. Flood Information Center webpage – A one-stop flood information source can be found at: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/796>
- c. Elevations, Relocations & Buyout Technical Assistance – Owners of flood-prone homes may seek one-on-one assistance with projects that will provide cost-effective, long-term relief from repeated flood damages. Details at: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/785>
- d. Real-Time Flood Information System – A newly launched website enables residents to view real-time river depths and flows as well as rain gauges throughout the county. This online tool offers maps, graphs, historical data and an interactive map. Users can access online info via smartphones as well. Available at: <https://snohomish.onerain.com>
- e. Financial Assistance – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds programs under which Snohomish County can sponsor an application on a homeowner’s behalf. More information at: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/785>

### **Resources Provided by Planning and Development Services (PDS):**

- a. Flood Hazard Determination Services – Residents can use this service to determine a specific property’s flood risk and regulatory base flood elevation. Contact PDS for more information: 425-388-3311.
- b. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (also known as FIRM maps) – The preliminary flood hazard maps are the official maps on which the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has delineated special flood hazard areas and risk zones. They show the location of a property relative to special flood hazard areas, which is one of the factors determining flood insurance rates. For more information, see: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/3750>
- c. Development requirements – Staff in Planning and Development Services assist property owners with understanding how to construct or retrofit their new or existing homes to be safer from flooding.

### **Resources Provided by the Department of Emergency Management (DEM):**

- a. GovDelivery (Public Alert) – Residents can receive information and tips on disaster preparedness. Register at: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/3862>
- b. Essentials of Flood Preparedness List – This resource will help you assemble an emergency supplies kit, prepare an emergency plan, and stay informed. Details at: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6783>
- c. AlertSense – Residents can register and receive emergency alerts, such as those related to evacuations, crime/imminent danger and local area emergencies. Register at: <http://public.alertsense.com/SignUp/?regionID=1129>

### **About Snohomish County Public Works**

The Snohomish County Public Works Department constructs and maintains county roads; controls and manages surface water quantity, quality, and fish habitats; and oversees the recycling and disposal of solid waste. The department’s main office is located at 3000 Rockefeller Ave., Everett, WA 98201. For more information about Snohomish County Public Works, visit [www.snohomishcountywa.gov/PublicWorks](http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/PublicWorks).

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