

HOW WE HELP REDUCE FLOODING AND IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

- ◆ *Flood Response and Investigation*
- ◆ *Capital Improvement Projects to reduce flooding*
- ◆ *Ditch Cleaning*
- ◆ *Infrastructure Repair*
- ◆ *Flood Maps*
- ◆ *Inventory of drainage issues*
- ◆ *Street Sweeping*
- ◆ *Pipe & Inlet Inspection*
- ◆ *Pipe & Inlet Cleaning*



The City of Tampa conducts routine maintenance of the stormwater management system to improve water quality to Tampa Bay and reduce flooding in our community.

The City and Hillsborough County have copies of updated FEMA flood maps for our area. The flood maps were updated by the City and the County in the FEMA map modernization program.

The National Weather Service and Hillsborough County Emergency Operations Center issue warnings of expected flooding which are broadcast on most radio and television stations.

SAFETY FIRST

- ≈ Stay away from flood waters
- ≈ Do not drive through flooded areas
- ≈ Do not approach electrical lines
- ≈ Turn off your electricity
- ≈ Check for gas leaks
- ≈ Watch your step
- ≈ Be alert for animals!

CITY OF TAMPA
STORMWATER



306 E Jackson St, 6N
Tampa, FL 33602

Phone: (813) 622-1901
Fax: (813) 274-8880

Quick Reference Guide to Stormwater Flooding



CITY OF TAMPA
STORMWATER

Our City receives frequent intense rainstorms that can cause localized flooding to occur. Due to the lack of topographic relief, it is difficult for water to quickly drain from the land. Flood water may not be deep, but it can damage property and even pose a threat to personal safety.

The most frequent flooding in the City is caused by rainfall. Some localized tidal flooding does occur on Bayshore Drive and in the Westshore area of the peninsula. Storm surge associated with tropical systems would likely create the most widespread damage to the City—always monitor tropical storm conditions and evacuation notifications.

The Stormwater Department invites you to review this brochure and familiarize yourself with how to minimize the effects of flooding.

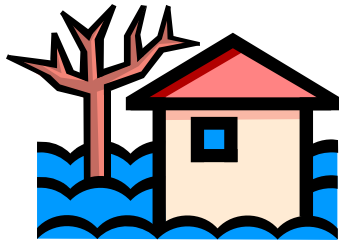


www.tampagov.net/dept_stormwater



Flood Protection

If you have a flooding emergency or a drainage problem, you can call the City Stormwater Operations office at (813) 622-1901 for help. If maintenance of the City system is required, they can handle it or, if there is no storm sewer system, they can refer it for further investigation. They can also explain ways to stop flooding and prevent damage on your property.



The City's Stormwater Department has flood maps that indicate whether you live in a flood hazard area. There is also information on flooding problems in specific, localized areas that may not be shown on FEMA flood maps. If you are considering buying a property and are not sure if it floods, information on past flooding is available. Flood maps and information on flood protection can also be found on our webpage: www.tampagov.net.

Contact Us:

Stormwater Operations	(813) 622-1901
Flood Prevention	622-1901
Property and Floodzones	274-8771
Construction Services Division	274-3100
Hillsborough County	276-2385
Emergency Operations	

Flood Prevention

- Do not place any debris or trash-including yard waste-in stormwater inlets, ditches or other waterways. Dumping into the drainage system can easily create blockages resulting in flooding. Do not place garbage cans near storm sewer inlets.
- Check if you need a permit from the City's Construction Services Division (CSD) before you make any changes such as grading, filling, or construction on your property. The changes you have planned may cause flooding problems for you or your neighbors.
- The Stormwater Dept maintains a "Red Line List" of flood-prone property. Development in these areas might be restricted. Call the CSD for more info.
- If you see someone dumping anything into stormwater inlets or ditches, report it to Stormwater Operations.

Property Protection

You can take an active role in protecting your property from flood damage. The method you choose depends on your particular situation.

- ≈ Water diversion with an earthen berm or swale
- ≈ Installing or redirecting roof gutters
- ≈ Reducing impervious surfaces
- ≈ Raise buildings above base flood levels
- ≈ Follow FEMA recommendations which detail flood protection. Check out FEMA publications # 210 and #234 at the Construction Services Division

Flood Insurance

Flood Insurance is available to all property owners. Homeowner insurance policies do not cover damage from flooding— talk to your insurance agent about a separate flood insurance policy.



Since Tampa is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program, flood insurance policies are available to its citizens. Be aware that if you have flood insurance because your mortgage holder required it, it may not cover the loss of contents.

If you exceed 50% of your home's value with improvements and are in a special flood hazard area ("A" and "V" zones) the house must be brought up to current code standards, including elevating to above the base flood elevation.

Copies of Elevation Certificates are available through records request to the CSD or online at www.tampagov.net/permits.

Floodplains

Floodplains are natural buffers for reducing flood damage and provide habitat for wildlife. The Upper Hillsborough River and its tributaries are designated Outstanding Florida Waters and are protected to ensure their continued usefulness for both the citizens of Tampa and the environment.

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