



Flood Warnings

Local authorities will issue flood watches (when conditions are likely for flooding) and flood warnings (when flooding is imminent) Monitor local media, the Weather Channel, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio for emergency updates. Sign up for AlertPBC, Palm Beach County's Emergency Notification System, at alertpbc.com

Do You Know Your Flood Zone?

To learn if your property is in a Special Flood Hazard Area, may be affected by coastal erosion, is in an area that has been flooded repeatedly, and to determine if an Elevation Certificate is on file for the property, call the PBC Flood Zone Request Line at 561-233-5374 or visit msc.fema.gov/portal.

Purchase a Flood Insurance Policy Today!

- Flood insurance is available for your building and for the contents. (Renters take note.)
- Consider purchasing flood insurance whether your property is in a Special Flood Hazard Area or not.
- Visit FloodSmart.gov, call your insurance agent, or call 1-888-379-9531 to find an agent to protect your property from rising waters.
- There is usually a 30-day waiting period for flood insurance to take effect.
- Call the PBC Flood Zone Request Line at 561-233-5374 for assistance.

Staying informed is also important before emergencies occur.

Follow the PBC Division of Emergency Management on



**Visit pbcgov.com/flood
pbcgov.com/floodservices**

Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Management

20 South Military Trail
West Palm Beach, Florida 33415
561-712-6400

Planning, Zoning, and Building Department Building Division

2300 N. Jog Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33411
561-233-5100

South County Office

345 S. Congress Avenue, Suite 102
Delray Beach, Florida 33445
561-276-1284

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this document is available in alternate accessible formats upon request by calling Palm Beach County Emergency Management.



**Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners**



Flood Hazard Information

Living in a coastal county means you have to plan and prepare for storm hazards, including flooding and storm surge.

**Department of Public Safety
Division of Emergency Management • 561-712-6400**

**Planning, Zoning & Building Department
Building Division • 561-233-5100**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has flood maps for Palm Beach County that are utilized as the basis for flood insurance rates. For property owners, their home and its contents, represent their greatest investment. Property losses from flooding are not covered under most standard homeowners' or renters' insurance policies. Whether you are an owner or a renter, we encourage you to consider flood insurance for your property as you prepare for future hazards.

Palm Beach County has achieved Class 5 in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System for implementing flood protection policies beyond the minimum NFIP requirements. This rating provides property owners in the County's Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) a 25% discount on flood insurance premiums. Those outside SFHAs receive a 10% discount. Be sure that you receive the proper discount. The county continues to work toward the goal of achieving even greater flood insurance premium discounts in the future.

For more information, visit pbcgov.com/flood, "one-stop" flood information source for residents and business owners.



Development and Elevation Requirements for Properties Located in Flood Hazard Areas

Article 18 of the Unified Land Development Code is available for viewing on the Building Division website at www.pbcgov.com/floodservices. Please contact the Building Division Plans Review Help Desk at 561-233-5108, or use the PBC Flood Zone Request Line at 561-233-5374 for additional construction requirements.

Protect Your Property

- Elevate electrical panel boxes, A/C condensing units, and other appliances.
- Construct a small floodwall or earthen berm, or redirect drainage, to keep water away from the building.
- Consider "floodproofing" buildings by applying waterproof sealant as a barrier against water intrusion.
- If you have drainage problems on your property, or are considering improvements, County staff can offer property protection advice and/or provide a site visit. Call the PBC Flood Zone Request Line at 561-233-5374.

Protect Natural Floodplain Functions

- Open, unpaved areas are beneficial to our quality of life.
- When rainfall drains into the ground, it helps reduce flooding and recharge our drinking water supply.
- Unpaved land filters stormwater runoff as it seeps through the ground and into our aquifer.
- It is important to appreciate natural floodplains - keep these open and clean!

Construction Information

- Obtain a permit from Palm Beach County, No construction, including moving the earth, is legal in a floodplain without a permit.
- Call Palm Beach County Code Enforcement at 561-233-5500 if you are aware of construction taking place illegally.

Please call the Palm Beach County Building Division at 561-233-5100 to obtain a permit. For copies of elevation certificates, call our PBC Flood Zone Request Line at 561-233-5374.

Stormwater Drainage Tips Did You Know?

- It is illegal to throw anything into the lakes, canals, or other waterways in the County.
- Only stormwater is permitted in storm drains that are located in streets, right-of-ways, and parking lots.
- Dumping materials into our waters or drains pollutes the waters, clogs the storm drains, and increases flooding in neighborhoods.

Please call the Engineering Department at 561-684-4000 for more information about stormwater management or Code Enforcement at 561-233-5500 to report illegal dumping.

Flood Safety

- Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can make your footing unstable. If you must walk in water, use a pole or stick to measure the depth of the water.
- Do not drive through a flooded area. Don't drive around road barriers. Canals or ponds may not be distinguishable from roads. Driving through flooded streets can produce a wake that worsen flooding to buildings along the street.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wire, Electrical current can travel through water
- Be Prepared. Have an evacuation and shelter route planned before a storm surge evacuation order is issued. Do not wait until the last minute
- You can find your evacuation zone at www.pbcgov.com/knowurzone.

