

Flood Hazard Information

The following information is important for the protection of you and your property in the event of a flood

Because your elected officials, City staff and administration care about your safety, welfare and quality of life in the city, we urge you to read and take action to assist in reducing the risk of damage and loss to you, your family, property and personal possessions.

This information has been prepared to assist you in protecting your home and property from physical and financial dangers of flooding in your area.

The City of Melbourne has both residential and commercial properties that are located in federally designated Special Flood Hazard Areas.

Your property may experience the effects of periodic flooding during seasonal rains, tropical storms, and especially hurricanes.

The City of Melbourne Building Department can assist you with information and references about Special Flood Hazard Areas using Flood Insurance Maps provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

If your property is located within the Special Flood Hazard Area, flood insurance is mandatory in order to secure a Federally Guaranteed Mortgage in any Special Flood Hazard Area.

Most homeowner's insurance policies **do not** cover damages or loss due to flooding. Flood insurance is available to property owners from the Federal Government as part of the National Flood Insurance Program. Check with your insurance carrier as to the types of coverage available and the associated costs.

The Code Compliance Division maintains copies of the Elevation Certificates and Letters of Map Revision/Amendment.

Floodplain Development

Any development or improvement in the designated floodplain area **requires a building permit** from the Building Department and/or the Department of Environmental Protection.

This includes buildings, fences, slabs, sprinklers, pools, air conditioners, excavation, grading and/or fill. In fact, any work excluding cosmetic items may require permitting. Contact the Building Department at 321-608-7915 for permit requirements.

Anyone who sees construction of any kind and wants to check the permit status, can contact the Building Department.

Illegal construction poses a risk to all persons in the community. High winds and flood waters can cause serious harm to persons and significant damages to property.

Flood safety is your responsibility as a citizen and property owner in this community. The following information is provided to summarize steps you should take for flood safety.

- 1) Secure flood insurance in order to protect your financial investment in property and personal possessions.
- 2) Photograph and list your possessions for claim purposes; store information with your insurance policy in a safe and dry place.
- 3) Prepare your personal evacuation plan and make preparations for food, water and supplies for at least (2) two weeks of survival without electricity and a checklist of pre-emergency activities.
- 4) If you have a special need for medical equipment, physical care or if you need assistance with transportation to a shelter due to age, physical disability or any disorder, pre-register now with Brevard County Emergency Management at 321-633-6670.
- 5) Obtain storm shutters for all doors, windows, and openings on your building, and if removable, store in an area that is easily and quickly accessible.
- 6) Trim trees and shrubs regularly, and do not trim just prior to a flood or hurricane, secure any loose objects around you property as they can become dangerous airborne flying debris/projectiles.

If you must evacuate the area, be sure to shut off electrical and gas supplies upon the property, as they may pose potential danger to anyone having to respond after a storm for rescue and/or damage assessment.

Flood Warning System

In case of an emergency where flooding might be involved, the following local radio and television stations will provide information as part of the Emergency Broadcast system.

AM/FM Radio

- WMMB-AM 1240
- WLRQ-FM 99.3
- WMEL-AM920

Television

- WESH TV-CH 2
- WCPX TV-CH 6
- WFTV TV-CH 9

Information and maps concerning evacuation routes and emergency procedures are available at:

The City of Melbourne, City Hall
900 East Strawbridge Avenue
Melbourne FL 32901

Phone: 321-608-7915; Fax: 321-608-7920

www.melbourneflorida.org

Or

The Brevard County Division of Emergency Management

1746 Cedar Street

Rockledge, FL 32955

Phone: 321-636-6670; Fax: 321-633-1738

<https://www.brevardfl.gov/EmergencyManagement/>

In the event of a Category 4 or 5 Hurricane you must evacuate: It is mandatory!

Shelter information will be broadcast at the time of the emergency and citizens may always contact the following agencies during any emergency.

Important Contact Numbers:

- Melbourne Police Department: 321-608-6781
- Melbourne Fire Department: 321-608-6000
- Melbourne Building Department: 321-608-7915
- Melbourne Public Works: 321-608-5000
- FEMA General Offices: 202-646-2500

You should prepare your own list of activities and procedures in the event of a pending flood, tropical storm or hurricane that will assist you in securing your property and possessions. Information is available at your local library and the Division of Emergency Management in Rockledge.

You can also take action now to permanently secure your property and possessions by “floodproofing” or physical alterations that improve the ability to withstand damages caused by flooding and wind damages.

Hurricane storm shutters are recommended and the installation of storm shutters **does require** a building permit from the local building department.

Property owners can take other measures to secure their investment in physical property. Raised levees (landscape berms), floodwalls (which surround functional patio areas) and elevated platforms for air conditioning equipment can reduce the risk and actual damage during flooding.

Property owners may wish to raise (elevate) or relocate structures prone to flood damage. This can include a backyard shed, outbuilding, the main structure or portions of a structure. Such activities can also reduce insurance premiums in the Special Flood Hazard Areas.

Dry Floodproofing

Floodproofing includes sealing or waterproofing with special materials and compounds which provide a chemical or physical barrier against water intrusion during inundation by floodwaters.

Building permits are required in order to ensure safe and property installation of floodproofing measures, including any “dry floodproofing”.

More information on methods of protection and floodproofing, including federal publications is available at the City of Melbourne Building Department and the Melbourne Public Library.

Drainage System Maintenance

Another serious risk to the safety of our community occurs when people in or outside the community participate in illegal dumping in our storm water drainage canal systems. Storm water drainage canals provide an invaluable drainage feature to help speedily carry potential floodwaters away from our properties and structures.

Report any illegal dumping activity on any vacant lot, storm water drainage system, canal, ditch bank, or any body of water to the Streets & Stormwater Management Division at 321-953-6241.