



## FLOOD & HURRICANE INFORMATION EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW

360 PPA & PPV - Publicity

Mailed to every building in the SFHA April 2024

*As part of the Town of Lake Park's outreach program, we feel that it is important for you as a resident or business owner to learn your flood risk and that you prepare for flooding and hurricane season by considering the following:*

### **Know Your Flood Zone**

Call the Town of Lake Park Community Development Department at 561-881-3319 for access to FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and to learn if a property is in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), if it may be affected by sea level rise, is in an area that has had historical flooding, if it is near an area that should be protected due to its natural floodplain functions, and to see if an Elevation Certificate is on file for a property.

### **Property Protection**

- Check your building for water entry points, such as doors, low windows, and dryer vents.
- Construction of a small flood wall or earthen berm, or redirecting drainage to keep water away from the building are examples of property protection.
- Electrical appliances, air conditioners, electrical panel boxes, and other appliances should be elevated above flood level.
- Search the Palm Beach County Public Library catalog for Government Research, FEMA.

Remember, some flood protection measures may need a building permit and others may not be safe for your type of building, so be sure to talk to Community Development before you make any alterations to your property. Town staff will give advice and visit properties upon request to review a drainage problem and explain ways to help you protect your property from flood damage. Contact the Community Development Department at 561-881-3319 for more information about this free service.

### **Flood Warning**

In the event of an oncoming storm or flood emergency, tune into the Town's TV Channel 18 (Comcast Customers) since it may be used to provide information, but most importantly, a CodeRED message will be delivered to all residents by phone. It will provide up-to-date information pertaining specifically to Lake Park. You should also monitor The Weather Channel and local television channels and have a NOAA weather radio on-hand with extra batteries. You can follow the Town's Facebook account for updates, @townoflakepark, call Town Hall at 561-881-3300, and go to the Town's website at [lakeparkflorida.gov](http://lakeparkflorida.gov), and the Palm Beach County website at [discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety](http://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety).

### **Stormwater Drainage Maintenance**

Under no condition shall the discharge of any domestic, sanitary, industrial, commercial waste, yard clippings or polluted water of any kind be permitted to be discharged into the stormwater drainage system, natural outlet, waterway, or any area under the jurisdiction of the town. If you witness such illegal behavior, please call the Code Enforcement Department at (561) 881-3321 immediately. Please help to keep storm drains and swales clean. To report a drainage problem, please contact Public Works at 561-881-3345.

### **Flood Safety**

- **Do not walk through flowing water!** Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. If you must walk in water, use a pole, or stick to see how deep the water is.
- **Do not drive through flooded areas!** Don't drive around road barriers. Canals or ponds may not be distinguishable from roads. Driving through flooded streets can produce a wake that worsens flooding to buildings along the street.
- **Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.** Electrical current can travel through water.
- **Be Prepared! Have an evacuation and shelter route planned before an evacuation order is issued.** Do not wait until the last minute. Go to the Palm Beach County Emergency Management website at [pbcGov.com/knowurzone](http://pbcGov.com/knowurzone) for valuable information.

### **Purchase a Flood Insurance Policy Today!**

The Town of Lake Park is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), a federal program that allows property owners and renters to purchase flood insurance for their building and/or its contents. There a 30-day waiting period before coverage takes effect. Call your insurance agent today or go to [FloodSmart.gov](http://FloodSmart.gov), or call 877-336-2627 to find an agent and to find out more about protecting your property from rising waters. The Town will offer advice at 561-881-3319.

### **Protect Natural Floodplain Functions**

Open, unpaved areas are part of our stormwater management system; they can collect and store stormwater runoff during rainfall events. When rainfall drains into the ground, it helps reduce street flooding and filters stormwater runoff as it seeps through the ground and into our aquifer.

We must protect natural floodplains and value the benefits they provide. To learn more, read the FEMA publication, "Protecting Floodplain Resources: A Guidebook for Communities", at [LakeParkFlorida.gov](http://LakeParkFlorida.gov), click on *Residents*, then *Emergency Management and Flooding*, to find a link to the publication.