

# Thurston County Flood Bulletin



Fall 2012

Preparedness Information

## *Dear Neighbor,*

If you've received this bulletin in the mail it's because you have property in the 100-year floodplain or in a groundwater flooding area. Even though we've had a dry summer, it only takes a few weeks of heavy rain to raise rivers and groundwater to flood levels.

Disasters can be so overwhelming that demand often exceeds available resources, leaving people on their own sometimes for days before outside help arrives.

The 2012 Flood Bulletin contains information on preparedness tips for your home, vehicle and family. Thank you for taking the time to be prepared.

*Kathy Estes*

Kathy Estes  
Emergency Manager



## Phone Alert Test: October 22-26, 2012

Subscribers to the Thurston County telephone alert system will receive a test call between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. during the week of October 22-26.

You don't have to be home during the test. If you have any questions or do not receive a test call that week, please contact us at (360) 867-2800.

**Please Note:** If you are not a subscriber, you will **not** receive a test call. See article on next page to find out how to subscribe. It's free!

## Sample Message

*This is Thurston County Emergency Management with an important message about the Deschutes River. Today is Monday, April 30 at 1 p.m. The gage near Rainier registered nine feet at noon. It's expected to reach flood stage, 11 feet, by 6 p.m. Residents should take steps to protect life and property on short notice.*

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**Photo:** 2007 Flood, Highway 12 at Anderson Rd;  
photo by Paul Henderson

# Your Telephone Alert System



## Activation

The system is activated when, in the opinion of Emergency Management, a level of warning beyond that provided by the National Weather Service and the media is needed to urge residents to take action to protect life or property. A sample message is on the front page.

## How it works

Our staff records a brief message and places calls to subscribers. When you pick up your phone, our system plays the message. If you have an answering machine, our system waits for a prompting tone and plays the message for your recorder.

## What if there's no answer?

After a number of rings, the system will hang up and call the next number on the list. After at least 15 minutes, it will try again, then a third time if necessary.

## How to subscribe

Give us your name, residential address, mailing address (if different than your residential address), the name of the river in your area and the telephone numbers you'd like us to contact with emergency notifications. You can mail, phone or fax your information to:

Thurston County Emergency Management  
9521 Tilley Road South  
Olympia, WA 98512  
Phone: (360) 867-2800; Fax: 867-2811

You can also subscribe online at: [www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/flood/teleAlert.htm](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/flood/teleAlert.htm)  
Please call us if you are currently subscribed and no longer want to receive the river alert notifications.

## Important Notice: Alert System Limitations

Several Caller ID features such as anonymous call rejection and security screen can interfere with receipt of emergency notifications. If you use any call screening services, contact Emergency Management for more information.

# Don't Get Caught In The Dark! Preparedness EXPO: October 13

**When:** Saturday, October 13; 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

**Where:** Saint Martin's University, Marcus Pavilion, Worthington Conference Center, 5300 Pacific Ave, Lacey.

**Admission:** FREE! Kids' Events, Prizes!

**Plus free Kit-Man safety bag for all attendees.**

**Featuring:** Information on preparing for floods, earthquakes, storms and other natural disasters.

**Speakers:** "Take Winter by Storm," Andy Wappler, Puget Sound Energy. "Animal Preparedness,"

Hollie Smith, Emergency Management.

**Demonstrations:** Fire Extinguisher Safety, U.S. Army Vehicles, Fire Trucks, Germ City and more.

**Vendors:** Check out the latest and greatest preparedness supplies.

**Details:** [www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/expo](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/expo) or contact Vivian Eason at 867-2825.



*GET YOURS! A Kit-Man Safety Bag, perfect for assembling and carrying your To-Go supplies (see page 12), is free to all EXPO visitors (as supplies last). Thanks to Sawyer Dean for modeling the Kit-Man!*

## October 22-27 is Flood Awareness Week



County commissioners proclaim the week of October 22-27 Thurston County Flood Awareness Week. Activities include:

**Thursday, October 25, 6:30-9 p.m.**

Skywarn Weather Spotter Training at the Emergency Coordination Center, 9521 Tilley Road South.

Learn how to look for and report

weather events. Please RSVP: 867-2825 or [easonv@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:easonv@co.thurston.wa.us)

**ALSO:** For preparedness tips throughout the week, check out:

[facebook.com/ThurstonEM](https://www.facebook.com/ThurstonEM) and [twitter.com/ThurstonEM](https://twitter.com/ThurstonEM)



## Flood Insurance-- 5 Big Questions

1. *Federal disaster aid will reimburse me for property loss. Won't it?*

**No!** FEMA aid is limited and only available when the president declares a disaster. Not all floods, even those causing thousands of dollars in damage, are federally declared disasters. Federal aid may often be in the form of a loan that you must pay back with interest. Flood insurance policies pay claims whether or not a federal disaster is declared.

2. *My home was previously flooded. Will I be able to buy flood insurance? **Yes!***

3. *Is flood insurance only available to homeowners?*

**No!** Flood insurance is also available for farms and commercial structures. Coverage of contents is available to renters as well.

4. *Can I simply fix the flood damage?*

**The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** requires that if the cost of reconstruction, rehabilitation, additions or other improvements to your home equals or exceeds 50% of the building's market value, then the building must meet the same construction requirements as a new building. Call the county's Resource Stewardship office at 754-3355, ext. 6647.

5. *Where do I purchase flood insurance?*

**National Flood Insurance**, a federal program, is sold through many private insurance companies. If you have a problem purchasing flood insurance, call the NFIP at 1-888-379-9531. See [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov) for more information.

**AND:** NFIP offers Compliance Cost coverage. See page 9.

**There is a 30-day waiting period after the first premium is paid before the policy is effective.**

### Good News!

Through mitigation and preparedness actions, Thurston County has earned a **25% discount** for flood insurance rates available to residents in the unincorporated areas. This translates into an average annual savings of \$238 per property.

# River Flood Facts



Since 1972, Thurston County has been declared a federal disaster area for floods 14 times. River flooding in our county comes from several sources: the Nisqually, Deschutes, Skookumchuck, Black and Chehalis rivers, and local creeks.

The devastating potential of local floods was demonstrated in December 2007 when flooding of the Chehalis River in rural Rochester caused more than \$3 million dollars in damage to 165 homes, and 63 county residents were rescued.

Threshold marks for major area rivers:

**Nisqually**--The National Weather Service (NWS) issues a flood warning (see page 7) when its forecast model indicates a stage of 12 feet or higher at the McKenna gage.

**Skookumchuck**--NWS flood warning: forecasted river stage of 13.5 at the Bucoda gage. Low-lying flooding in Thurston County occurs at a height of 15 feet; major flooding at 17 feet.

**Chehalis**--NWS flood warning: forecasted stage at 14 feet at the Grand Mound gage. Major flooding occurs when the gage reaches 17.5 feet.

**Deschutes**--NWS warning: forecasted stage at 11 feet. This river rises and falls at a faster rate than any other county river. Major flooding occurs when the height exceeds 13.5. For more information, see our website at [www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/em/)

## Groundwater Flooding Update

According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the probable frequency of a groundwater flood is once every 25 years. Groundwater flooding is due to consecutive monthly rainfalls of greater than 10 inches per month such as preceded the 1998-99 flooding which damaged structures and contaminated wells. To better understand these intense rainfall events, Thurston County installed a monitoring network which tracks groundwater levels hourly. In early September, monitoring wells recorded groundwater levels in the Salmon Creek Basin at *one-foot* higher than normal levels which typically range from 178 to 182 feet in elevation. Groundwater level declines for the summer of 2012 are calculated at *one-half-foot* per month and should continue to decline until November 1. The National Weather Service forecasts a transition to a weak-to-moderate El Nino cycle which may bring a warmer and drier fall and winter. This should reduce the risk of groundwater flooding this winter. A summary of data for the hydrologic year that ended September 30 will be available at [www.co.thurston.wa.us/monitoring](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/monitoring) by October 31. Groundwater data is downloaded once every four to six weeks and is usually available within three weeks on the county website.

# More Than One Source of Flooding



Thurston County has five flood sources: rivers, groundwater, urban runoff, marine coastal

and lakes. Independently, these sources can cause flooding; often they combine to make floods more severe.

The primary cause of river flooding is too much rain in too short a time for the river to carry it away. Frozen ground, snowpack, tides and wind can increase severity. Frozen ground prevents rain absorption by the soil. Snowpack preloads additional water into the system. High tides and winds block or slow water departure causing it to back up in the river.

Groundwater flooding is generally caused by two or more seasons of above normal rainfall including a cool wet summer. The first wet season elevates groundwater levels, followed by a cool wet summer which keeps the level elevated. Flooding is likely to begin with the next above normal rainy winter.

Urban flooding is increasing. As we convert more forest to lawns, lots and

impervious surfaces, retention capacity decreases while runoff increases. Our present ditch and stormwater network can't keep up with storm systems. Storms are also featuring a higher rate of rain over shorter periods of time. Instead of a storm of five inches of rain in 72 hours, we now can receive that much rain in 24-36 hours. Higher intensity storms create more runoff for all flooding sources.

Marine coastal flooding along Puget Sound can occur from "King Tides" but generally needs help from other factors. High tides, high on-shore winds and runoff all contribute to coastal flooding.

Lake flooding is a complex process: More water goes into the lake than runs out so the lake level rises, flooding low areas. Many factors combine to cause floods, such as storm intensity, groundwater levels, soils, snowpack, outlet size, frozen ground, wind and urbanization.

Learn what sources and conditions impact you. Start by attending our Preparedness EXPO and visiting these sites:

[www.co.thurston.wa.us/monitoring/](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/monitoring/)  
[www.co.thurston.wa.us/em](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/em)

## Want Tips to Manage Runoff On Your Property?

The Stormwater Stewards, a team of highly trained and capable volunteers, under the supervision of WSU Extension, are available for free site assessments. Thurston County homeowners can receive technical advice about on-site stormwater management strategies, including:

- Techniques to infiltrate stormwater
- Sustainable landscape techniques
- Designing and constructing rain gardens
- Permeable pavers... and more.

Contact Erica Guttman at [erica@nativeplantsalvage.org](mailto:erica@nativeplantsalvage.org) or 867-2164 for details.

# 3 Ways to Help Prevent Neighborhood Flooding

## 1. Keep stormwater drains clean.

During heavy rains, leaves, fir tree needles, dirt and trash are quickly swept into storm drains, often clogging them and causing local flooding. You can help by taking preventive measures.

Never sweep or hose materials such as beauty bark into the street or gutter. If flooding occurs in your neighborhood's streets during heavy rain, grab a rake and safely clear the drain of clogging debris.



## 2. Keep ditches and swales trash-free.

Good drainage helps reduce flooding. The county's Public Works Department monitors and clears ditches and culverts throughout the year, with a special emphasis on problem areas in the rainy winter months.

Please remember it's against the law (Article V of the county's Sanitary Code) to dump trash, Christmas trees, tires or other materials into streams, ditches or other waterways. If you know of a clogged roadside ditch or culvert in your area, please report it to Roads Maintenance at 867-2300.

## 3. Maintain stormwater ponds.

Is there a stormwater retention pond in your neighborhood? Ponds collect and filter runoff and temporarily hold large amounts of water during storms.

Perform vegetation management regularly to keep weeds and trees from overtaking the pond area, which leads to reduced capacity and clogging of inlet and outlet pipes. Branches, yard waste and litter can also clog pipes.

If done regularly, most vegetation maintenance requires little expertise and minimal equipment.

However, if you have a large pond or one requiring extra attention, you may need more skilled labor and equipment.

If your neighborhood has stormwater catch basins, regularly inspect inlets to ensure debris is not blocking water flow.

For more information on stormwater facilities or to register for a free storm pond maintenance workshop, check the county's stormwater site at [www.co.thurston.wa.us/stormwater](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/stormwater).

Thurston County Water Resources conducts routine storm pond inspections and provides technical advice and assistance. For more information, call Cathe Linn at 867-2095.

### Free Workshop!

Thurston County offers a free storm pond maintenance workshop:

Saturday, April 20, 2013, 9 a.m. to noon,

To register, please contact Cathe Linn at 867-2095

or [linnca@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:linnca@co.thurston.wa.us)

# Stay Tuned: Disaster Information

## Best Bet: Weather Radio!

Receive up-to-the-minute advisories from the National Weather Service around the clock. Pre-tuned, battery-powered weather radios can be purchased from most electronic stores, starting at about \$30. Top models feature SAME technology, which can be programmed to sound alerts for selected conditions in selected areas.



## Broadcast Information

Frequency: 162.475 MH;  
Channel 4  
Thurston County SAME  
Code: 053067

## Flood Warning System

The National Weather Service (NWS) issues watches and warnings when forecasts indicate rivers may approach full bank levels. Local media such as KGY Radio, 1240 AM and 96.9 FM, and KAOS, 89.3 FM, broadcast NWS warnings.

## Flood Information on the Web

Check the Emergency Management site at [www.co.thurston.wa.us/em](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/em) for flood-related media advisories and links to NWS warnings and USGS real-time river gage readings. You'll also find links to FEMA, the Washington State Emergency Management Division, the American Red Cross and other disaster information sites.

## Watch? Warning? What's the Difference?

A warning means a flood is imminent, generally within 12 hours, or is occurring. When a watch is issued, prepare for the possibility of a flood. When a warning is issued, stay tuned to a local radio station for further information and be prepared to take quick action if needed.

[www.co.thurston.wa.us/em](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/em)

Check out the Emergency Management website for details on:

- Current flood advisories
- Sand and sandbags
- Emergency preparedness
- Local hazard identification

**ALSO:** Follow us on [facebook.com/ThurstonEM](https://www.facebook.com/ThurstonEM) and on [twitter.com/ThurstonEM](https://twitter.com/ThurstonEM)



## New: Emergency Alerts on Cell Phones

Wireless providers are introducing Wireless Emergency Alerts (also known as the Commercial Mobile Alert System), a new nationwide text system, which can warn you when weather threatens. The service is free and automatic – you don't have to sign up or download an app. As long as your cell phone is WEA-capable, you'll get wireless alerts for the most dangerous types of weather from NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) no matter where you are.



NWS will send warnings for tornadoes, flash floods, hurricanes, extreme wind, blizzards, ice storms, tsunamis and dust storms.

**How it works:** If you're in an area where a weather warning has been issued, your cell phone will pick up alerts broadcast by nearby cell towers, broadcasting the message much like a radio station. Cell phones within range will immediately pick up the signal — provided they are WEA-capable. When your phone receives a message, it will alert you with a unique ring tone and vibration.

The message will automatically pop up on your screen; you won't have to open it to read it. Regardless of where you are, this service will send alerts appropriate to your real-time location. For example, if a person with a WEA-capable phone from Maine happens to be in Texas during a tornado warning, she'll receive an "Imminent Threat Alert" on her device. More information: [www.noaa.gov/features/03\\_protecting/wireless\\_emergency\\_alerts.html](http://www.noaa.gov/features/03_protecting/wireless_emergency_alerts.html)

## Now On-Line! Chehalis River Early-Warning System

The Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority recently installed an Early-Warning System for basin residents. The system provides real-time access to flooding data, information and maps, as well as rain, stream, reservoir, wind, temperature and other weather information. Access the site at <http://contrail.onerain.com> (Username: public. Password: public.) Take a look!



## Floodplain Benefits

Floods and floodplains are essential to our ecosystem. A natural phenomenon, floods play a critical role in our environment. The county's watersheds support the rich and diverse wildlife that we value in the Northwest. Many species live in plant communities dependent upon wetlands and floodplains. Other benefits include:

- Preserving water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and impurities.
- Groundwater preservation and recharge: Most county residents rely on groundwater for their drinking water.
- Recreation sites such as the Nisqually Wildlife Refuge.
- Floodplains and wetlands are natural buffers that prevent flooding.



Let's preserve natural areas by keeping human activity out of the way of rivers that will inevitably move.

# New Flood Maps: 100 Properties Added, 342 Removed



The county has adopted FEMA’s revised Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps. Changes include about 100 properties added and 342 properties removed from the 100-year floodplain due to more accurate topographic data. New maps will be accessible October 16 at [www.geodata.org](http://www.geodata.org) and can be viewed in hardcopy form at the Permit Assistance Center at the County Courthouse.

If your property was removed from the floodplain, you may no longer be required by your lender to carry flood insurance, **however** it’s critical to keep flood insurance if your property has a history of flooding. Properties added to the floodplain may be required by their mortgage company to acquire flood insurance.

Contact your insurance agent for rate information. If you need additional help, contact Kristin Minch, FEMA Region X, at (206) 438-2607. For more information call Tim Rubert, Floodplain Manager, at 754-3355, ext. 6647

## Compliance Cost Coverage

If your home or business is damaged by flood, you may need to meet certain requirements to reduce future flood damage before repairing or rebuilding.

To help cover the costs of complying, the National Flood Insurance Program includes Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) coverage for Standard Flood Insurance Policies. Policy holders in high-risk areas can get up to \$30,000 to help pay the costs to bring their home or business into compliance with local floodplain regulations.

ICC claims are adjusted separately from flood damage claims and can only be filed if the county determines your property has been substantially or repeatedly damaged by flood. Complete details are available at [www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/floodplain/ICC.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/floodplain/ICC.shtm) or call Resource Stewardship at 754-3355, ext. 6647.

## Research Before You Buy

Buying property?

A little research can potentially save money and heartache. A great way to start is to visit the county’s GeoData site at

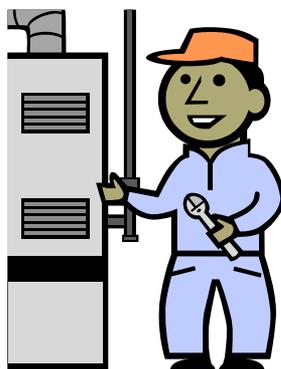


[www.geodata.org](http://www.geodata.org) While maps aren’t 100 percent accurate for every parcel, they do provide a wealth of data about flood zones, high groundwater areas, watersheds and nearby water bodies.

- Click on [www.geodata.org](http://www.geodata.org) and select “parcel search.”
- Enter the street number such as “209” (street name not required); click “go.” Scroll until you find the address, then click on the parcel number for details.
- Read down the page for information about the property, or click on “zoom map to parcel” at the top of the page to see a map. Click the circle and square next to the feature you want to view.

# 6 Ways to Protect Your Home

1. **Elevate** or relocate furnaces, water heaters, appliances and electrical panels. Better yet, elevate your home above possible flood levels on a new foundation.
2. **Install** back-flow valves or plugs for drains, toilets and other connections to prevent floodwaters from entering your home.
3. **Make openings** in foundation walls to allow water to flow in and out. This can help prevent collapse of the walls.
4. **Build and install** flood shields for doors and other openings to prevent the entrance of floodwaters.
5. **Store hazardous materials** like paint, pesticides and fertilizers inside plastic buckets off the floor. Take unwanted hazardous materials to the HazoHouse, Friday through Tuesday. Details at 754-3354.
6. **Install** sump pumps with backup power in crawl spaces or basements.



Questions? Call the county's Resource Stewardship office at **754-3355, ext 6647**.

## Building? Be Safe, not Sorry!

The county regulates floodplain development to protect the public and minimize flood losses. We require that homes vulnerable to floods include flood protection when built. We also restrict building new structures within the 100-year floodplain with limited exceptions. Regulations control filling, treecutting, grading and other development which may increase flood damage.

Information on development affecting individual lots in floodplains or in high groundwater areas is available at the county's Resource Stewardship office.

Staff can visit your property to answer questions specific to your site. The county also has limited historical data regarding flooding in unincorporated Thurston County. Call **754-3355, ext. 6647** for complete details.



### Your Input Needed! Flood Mitigation Plan

The county is updating its Comprehensive Flood Mitigation Plan. There were two public meetings in August. Another public meeting will be scheduled in the future. For more information, including a citizen survey, please visit [www.co.thurston.wa.us/planning/natural-res/natural-floodplan-update.htm](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/planning/natural-res/natural-floodplan-update.htm) or call 709-3079.

# Got a Plan?

Earthquakes, floods, windstorms and other disasters can strike with little or no warning. That's why we have to be prepared today for what might happen tomorrow. Here are three questions your family should consider:

## How Do We Keep in Touch?

In a disaster, the first thing many of us reach for is a phone. But local service can be quickly overwhelmed with thousands of calls. In the heat of the moment, we might not remember the numbers for our spouse's work or our children's school. Here are a few contact tips:



- List work, cell and school phone numbers for each family member on a laminated emergency contact card to keep in your purse, wallet or backpack.
- Include secondary landline numbers.
- Include the number of an out-of-state friend or relative you can all use as a check-in contact.

## How Do We Evacuate?

Create a floor plan of your home. Mark exits, utility shut-offs and the location of your disaster kit(s). Make sure household members know all safe exits. Share this information with babysitters and other visitors.



## Where Do We Meet?



Choose locations for your family to meet in case you are apart when disaster strikes. One place should be near your home. A back-up meeting place should be away from your neighborhood in case returning to your home is impossible.

## Under-the-Bed Safety Kit

It's a challenge to respond rationally to emergencies in the best of times, let alone when they happen (as they often do) in the middle of the night. Here are some disaster-ready essentials to keep under the bed:

- Sturdy shoes and socks--you may have broken glass in your home or need to walk a long way to safety!
- Leather gloves to protect you from broken glass
- Hardhat to prevent head injuries from falling objects
- Flashlight and lightsticks--Don't be caught in the dark!



## Your To-Go Kit: On Your Back



You may have to leave home with little or no warning. Packing essentials in a sports bag or backpack can help keep you safe, healthy and comfortable. Some items to consider:

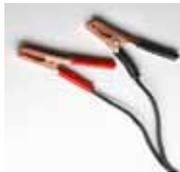
- High energy food (granola bars, raisins, etc.)
- Rain gear, warm clothes
- Water (at least one quart)
- Extra set of house and car keys
- Extra eyeglasses
- Personal ID, cash
- Flashlight, extra batteries
- Battery operated radio
- Hygiene kit
- First Aid kit and medications
- Emergency medical information



- Extra set of house and car keys
- Extra eyeglasses
- Personal ID, cash

## In Your Car

- Bottled water and high energy food (e.g. raisins, granola bars)
- Battery operated radio
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Flares
- Shovel
- Blanket
- Bright cloth to tie to antenna as an alert in case you become stranded
- Boots, gloves and rain gear
- Booster cables



## Evacuation: Do's and Don'ts

• **Don't walk through flowing water.** Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths. Six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet.

• **Don't drive on flooded roads.** Even if you can see the road under the water, don't drive on it! As little as 18 inches of water can float a small car. If your vehicle stalls in high water, abandon it quickly and climb to higher ground.



• **Don't drive around road barriers.** The road or bridge may be washed out!

• **Prepare a "to-go" kit** with essential items such as food, water, medications, a flashlight and battery operated radio.

• **Fill your gas tank.**

• **Develop an exit strategy** that includes at least two additional reliable sources of transportation-- a friend, relative or other means.

• **Tell a friend or relative** when you leave home and where you're going.

• **Take copies** of important documents.

# Your Animals--When Disaster Strikes, They Need You More than Ever



Essential services like heat and water are often unavailable in a disaster. What can you do to ensure your pet is safe and healthy?

## Preparation for pets

- Keep pet vaccinations up-to-date. Have documentation of vaccines handy.
- Know *before* a disaster where pets can go—whether

it's a friend or family member, pet-friendly hotel, animal shelter or boarding facility.

- Put out-of-state contact information on your pets' ID tags, microchip registrations and licenses.
- Prepare a "go-kit" of leashes, collars, extra ID tags, water, food, medications, health records and photos to prove ownership.
- Have carriers large enough for your pets to stand and turn around in.



## Evacuating

- Have transportation available. Train animals to board vehicles.
- Make a list of neighbors within a 100-mile radius of your home who would be willing to board your animals if you're forced to evacuate.
- Know your exotic pets' needs. Know where they can go and be prepared to evacuate them yourself. Stock up on extra supplies.
- Identify local organizations prepared to rescue and house displaced livestock.
- Involve family and neighbors in making an evacuation plan for animals in barns and outlying buildings.
- Keep a supply of feed at a separate location that could be air-dropped if animals become stranded.
- Assemble leads, halters, species-specific first aid kits, quieting hoods for easy transport, and water.
- Keep photos and a copy of your ownership papers or brands with you at all times in case you are separated from your animals.



## Important Contact Numbers

**Emergency Management: (360) 867-2800.**

**Roads Maintenance: (360) 867-2300, press 3**

**Fire/Police:** Call 9-1-1 **ONLY** for a life-threatening emergency. Non-emergency numbers for local fire and police stations can be found in the Community Service pages of your phonebook.

**Puget Sound Energy: 888-225-5773**

### Home and Building Information

**Resource Stewardship: (360) 754-3355, ext. 6647**

**HazoHouse: (360) 754-3354**

**National Flood Insurance: 1-888-379-9531**

**Stormwater Pond Inspections: 360-867-2095**



In recognition of its preparedness and mitigation efforts, Thurston County has been named a StormReady community by the National Weather Service. Details on the StormReady program are available at [www.stormready.noaa.gov/](http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/)

## Don't Get Caught in the Dark!

Preparedness isn't just about whether you can take care of yourself. Most of us can. Preparedness is also about who depends on you: your family, your co-workers, your friends and neighbors, and your pets. Be prepared for any emergency or disaster by taking simple steps: Have a Plan, Have a Kit, Help Each Other!

If you'd like to schedule a preparedness presentation or learn more about other neighborhood opportunities, please contact Vivian Eason, Thurston County Emergency Management, at 867-2825 or email her at [easonv@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:easonv@co.thurston.wa.us)

*Why do we prepare? Because we care!*

## Telephone Alert Test:

**Oct. 22-26**

**Emergency  
Preparedness EXPO  
Oct. 13, FREE, see page 2**

## Thurston County Flood Bulletin



**Emergency Management  
9521 Tilley Road South  
Olympia, WA 98512**

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