



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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Take Action This Flood Preparedness Week

(Woodland, CA) – As we begin to experience more storms, such as the one last weekend, Yolo County residents are encouraged to become better informed and prepared for potential flood events. Roughly 34% of Yolo County, totaling approximately 220,000 acres, falls within a regulated floodplain. There are over 4,500 flood insurance policies in effect within the county, which is protected by a network of 214 miles of levees maintained by 14 separate agencies.

Over the years, various measures have been implemented to reduce the risk of flood damage in Yolo County and its surrounding areas. The Yolo County Office of Emergency Services has successfully secured grant funding from the State to enhance emergency flood response plans, training, and supplies. Simultaneously, the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District collaborates with relevant authorities. This organization oversees an extensive irrigation system, which addresses erosion and storm-related canal damage, and closely monitors water flow throughout the county.

The Yolo County Community Services Department's Natural Resources Division also plays a vital role in flood mitigation, drawing on the insights gained from long-term studies. They are actively involved in significant projects, such as the Sacramento River Right Bank Levee improvements, Knights Landing Ridge Cut enhancements, and the Portuguese Bend Multi-Benefit Enhancement Area. These projects not only bolster flood control measures but also contribute to habitat restoration. Additionally, the department focuses on improving drainage infrastructure to ensure effective stormwater drainage.

The County of Yolo urges residents to be prepared for floods, whether they live in a flood zone or not. Yolo County residents can view an interactive map showing the scope, cause, and magnitude of flooding in your neighborhood at www.YoloCounty.org/FloodMapper to see the risk profile for your neighborhood.

Whether you live in a flood-prone area, or not, remember these safety tips:

- Depending on the type of flood:
 - Evacuate if told to do so.
 - Move to higher ground, or a higher floor.
 - Stay where you are if you're safe.
- Never drive around closed road barricades. Local responders use them to direct traffic out of flooded areas safely.
- Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions regarding flooding.

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- Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around. Don't Drown!
- Stay inside your car if it is trapped in rapidly moving water. Get on the roof if water is rising inside the car.

This Flood Preparedness Week, ensure you have a plan for your household, including your pets, so that you and your family know what to do, where to go, and what you will need to protect yourselves from flooding. Learn and practice evacuation routes, shelter plans, and flash flood response. Consider the medical needs of your household, including necessary medications, and use of durable medical equipment. Gather supplies, including non-perishable foods, cleaning supplies, and water for several days, in case you must leave immediately or if services are cut off in your area.

Additional information and resources can be found at:

- www.floodsmart.gov/
- ready.gov/floods
- www.nws.noaa.gov/floodsafety/floodsafe.shtml
- www.weather.gov/sacramento