

## Substantial Improvements

Any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition or other improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the structure before the start of construction of the improvement, over a one (1) year period, must conform to current building and flood regulations which might involve elevating the entire structure one (1) foot above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE).

## Flood Warning System

Should a severe storm hit the County of Yolo, there is a countywide W.A.R.N. (wide area rapid notification) warning system in place to advise residents that are in the flood area in the Sacramento River, Knights Landing ridge cut, Willow slough, and Cache Creek basin of the danger of rising waters. Residents in the affected areas are contacted by the W.A.R.N. system when floodwaters rise to dangerous levels. Also, all flood and storm warnings will be broadcast on all local radio and television stations.

## Flood Safety Tips

**Prepare an evacuation plan:** Before the flood waters hit, develop an evacuation plan among all members of a household that includes a meeting place outside of the house, as well as an escape route out of the floodplain and away from floodwaters.

**Do not walk through flowing water:** Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths, mostly during flash floods. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. If you walk in standing water, use a pole or stick to ensure that the ground is still there.

**Shut-off gas and electricity and move valuable contents upstairs:** Be prepared in advance with a detailed checklist because warning of an impending flood may provide little time for preparation prior to evacuation.

**Do not drive through a flooded area:** More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Don't drive around road barriers; road or bridges may be washed out.

**Stay away from power lines and electrical wires:** The number two flood killer after drowning is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to the PG&E or the County Office of Emergency Service (OES).

**Look out for animals, especially snakes:** Small animals that have been flooded out of their homes may seek shelter in yours. Use a pole or stick to poke and turn things over and scare away small animals.

**Look before you step:** After a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris including broken bottles and nails. Floors stairs that have been covered with mud can be very slippery.

**Be alert for gas leaks:** Use a flashlight to inspect for damages. Don't smoke or use candles, lanterns or open flames unless you know that the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated.

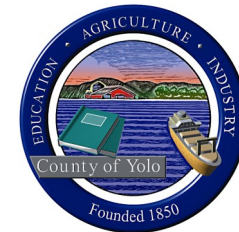
COUNTY of YOLO

Department of Community Services

## Floodplain Management Program

### *Storm Ready*

*A guide to help  
Yolo County Residents  
prepare for and respond to flooding*



(530) 666-8037

## Yolo County Floodplain Maps

The County of Yolo has 434 square miles, 256,571 acres and 5,423 individual parcels of floodplain defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the County of Yolo. The regulated floodplain areas are subject to flooding during severe storms.

The Yolo County Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) were first published in 1980 and have been revised over time, mapping Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA). FEMA has reviewed the levees in Yolo County for protection they provide, and will be issuing revised FIRM's. Visit FEMA's website [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) to view current FIRM'S for Yolo County.

## Are You in a Flood Zone?

There are three ways to find out if you live in a flood zone.

- Call the Building Division at (530) 666-8037 or fax your request to (530) 666-8156. Be sure to include your parcel number and contact information.
- Come to our public counter at the Department of Community Services, located in Woodland at 292 W. Beamer Street, Monday thru Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and Friday from 8:00 am - 12 pm.
- Log onto <https://www.yolocounty.gov/home/showdocument?id=75101&t=638025613615532608> and click on the request for flood information link.

## Flood Insurance?

Yolo County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that makes available federally backed flood insurance for all structures, whether or not they are located within the floodplain. More than 25 percent of NFIP claims are filed by properties located outside the 100-year floodplain, also known as the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Following the purchase of flood insurance, NFIP imposes a 30-day waiting period, so residents should purchase insurance before the onset of the rainy season to ensure coverage during the flooding season. Please be aware that standard homeowner or renter insurance policies do not cover losses due to flooding.

Membership within NFIP, and the availability to County residents of flood insurance, requires the County to manage its floodplain in ways that meet or exceed standards set by FEMA. NFIP insures building with two types of coverage: structural and contents. Structural coverage includes walls, floors, insulation, furnace and other items permanently attached to the structure. Contents coverage may be purchased separately to cover the contents of an insurable building. Flood insurance also pays a portion of the costs of actions taken to prevent flood damage.

## Drainage System Maintenance

The Public Works Department maintains the County's stormwater, drainage system and drainage ditches. Typical sources of drainage problems are frequently caused by debris blocking water flow. Keeping culverts and drainage ditches clear of debris is one of the easiest things property owners can do to help prevent localized flooding. **Do not dump or throw anything into drainage ditches, streams, sloughs or creeks. To report flood problems or illegal dumping into the drainage ditches, please call (530) 666-8811.**

## Important Contact Information

**DO NOT use 911 for information, Use only for actual emergencies.**

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 800-462-9029 Call FEMA for applications for assistance

### PG&E

24-hour Emergency and Customer Service  
800-743-5000

24-hour Power Outage Hotline  
800-743-5002

### AT&T Telephone

Repair Service  
611

### American Red Cross

Yolo Chapter  
530-662-4669  
Sacramento Sierra Chapter  
916-368-3130

### Animal Services

530-668-5280

### Yolo County Department of Community Services

530-666-8037

### Yolo County Environmental Health Department

530-666-8646

### Yolo County Office of Emergency Services

530-406-4930