**Public Works / Stormwater**

FEMA Flood Zone and Floodway information is available from the County. County topography, flood and basin study information is also available that may provide additional insights into flooding, projected flood depths, historical flooding and the benefits of floodplain area preservation on or near your property. Elevation Certificates and Letters of Map Change may also be on file for your property. For additional information please contact: Lake County Public Works, Floodplain Administration via email flood@lakecountyfl.gov or call 352-253-9081.

To view FEMA’s Flood Insurance Rate Maps on the Internet, visit: [Link to Lake County’s web page](http://www.lakecountyfl.gov).

**Flooding, Erosion or Drainage Concerns?**

On-site visits and technical assistance are provided to residents who are experiencing problems in areas of flooding and drainage. Please direct your inquiries to 352-253-9084.

**What is the 100 Year Flood?**

This is a storm event having a 1% probability of occurring in any given year.

**Flood Insurance**

Flood Insurance

Flood Insurance causes more property damage every year in the United States than any other type of natural disaster. Don’t forget that most standard homeowner’s insurance policies do not cover floods. Flood insurance is administered by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Lake County offers assistance with flood insurance questions. Please call or email 352-253-9081 or flood@lakecountyfl.gov.

**National Flood Insurance Program**

[Link to FEMA’s Flood Smart web page](http://floodsmart.gov).

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**BEING FLOOD AWARE**

Navigating your Flood-Related Resources at Lake County Government

**Lake County Flood Hazard: Is My Property In A Flood Zone?**

Flooding in Lake County may be caused by heavy rainfall that occurs in short periods, as is common during seasonal storms. Due to Lake County’s location between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean, there is always a flood threat to low-lying areas from hurricanes, tropical storms and heavy rainfall.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has identified portions of Lake County as Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) on their Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). See Lake County web page [www.lakecountyfl.gov](http://www.lakecountyfl.gov) for FEMA’s current flood maps.

**Development within a Floodplain: Obtaining Permits & Certificates**

Development in the floodplain requires a Floodplain Construction Authorization Permit. This includes, but is not limited to, agricultural properties, improvements to structures, excavation, filling, dredging, paving, drilling, mining, clearing and grading.

Elevation Certificates may be required if that development occurs within a flood zone. The finished floor of the structure is required to be a minimum of one and a half feet (18 inches) above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) for that flooding source (SFHA) and Elevation Certificates would be required certifying the elevations. For assistance, call 352-253-9081.

Illegal Floodplain Development, illegal dumping into stormwater drainage system and water bodies may be reported by calling Lake County Public Works / Stormwater at 352-253-9084.

**Emergency News and Information: Where To Get The Latest News**

Flood Warning / Comprehensive Emergency Operation Plan (CEOP) provides citizens with information on impending storms or flood threats. For up to date information go to:

- **Radio:** WBQJ AM 1410 or WKIQ AM 1240 or WLBE AM 790
- **Local TV:** Channel 13 and Bright House Channel 199

**Internet:** [Link to NOAA’s web page](http://www.noaa.gov) or [Link to Lake County’s web page](http://www.lakecountyfl.gov).

St. Johns River Real-time Stream Gages go to: [Link to St. Johns River real time gage web page](http://www.floodgauges.com).

**Flood Safety Measures: Don’t Take Chances!**

Remember, do not walk or drive through flood waters and always stay away from downed power lines. For more Flood Safety Information, and an Informational Kit contact Lake County Emergency Management at 352-343-9420 or go to [Link to FEMA’s web page](http://fema.gov).

It is important to remember that not all flooding concerns are shown on FEMA’s Flood Insurance Rate Map. For more information please contact Lake County Public Works Floodplain Administration via email flood@lakecountyfl.gov or call 352-253-9081.

**Natural Function Floodplains: Floodplains Do Have Their Good Points**

Floodplains may provide benefits such as, spreading flood water over a larger area thus reducing the velocity of the water, by acting as a buffer to reduce potential damage to buildings and they can improve water quality by filtering water before it reaches underground water supplies.

**Drainage Systems Maintenance: Managing the Flow From Below**

Drainage System Maintenance may be needed before, during or after storm events. Erosion, sedimentation and overgrowth of vegetation may require maintenance of stormwater drainage systems to prevent flooding.

Lake County Public Works Department Stormwater Division
323 N. Sinclair Avenue, Tavares, Florida 32778