

Flood Dangers are Real

It is a fact that much of the Florida coastline is prone to flooding during hurricane season. Nearly 25% of flood insurance claims come from moderate to low risk areas.

Flood Watch: A “Flood Watch” means that conditions are right for flooding to occur in your area.

Flood Warning: A “Flood Warning” means that flooding is either happening or will happen shortly. Closely monitor the situation. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Stay on high ground, or move immediately to higher ground before access is cut off by flood water.

Before a Flood:

- ◆ Make plans of what you will do and where you will go in a flood emergency.
- ◆ Know the elevation of your property in relation to nearby rivers and waterways.
- ◆ Go to www.wiltonmanors.com for Flood Preparedness information, including a link to your property’s flood map information on FEMA’s website.
- ◆ The Department of Homeland Security also has useful flood information on their [website](#).

Property Protection:

- ◆ Use sand bags to reduce erosion and scouring.
- ◆ Elevate furniture above flood protection levels.

Flood Safety:

- ◆ Do not walk through flowing water. Drowning is the number one cause of flood related deaths, mostly during flash floods. Currents can be deceptive: just 6 inches of moving water can knock you off your feet and 2 feet of water can sweep your vehicle away. If you walk in standing water, use a pole or stick first to determine the depth of the water.
- ◆ Do not drive through a flooded area. Nearly half of all flood fatalities are vehicle related.
- ◆ Do not drive around road barriers; the road or bridge may be washed out. If your vehicle stalls, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground. Rapidly rising water may sweep the vehicle away.
- ◆ Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. The number two flood related killer, after drowning, is electrocution. Electric current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to Florida Power & Light (1-800-4-OUTAGE).
- ◆ Keep children away from culverts and storm drains.
- ◆ Don’t use appliances or motors that have gotten wet unless they have been taken apart, cleaned and dried.

REMEMBER: *Turn Around, Don’t Drown!*

Flood Insurance:

Most people learn too late that standard property insurance does not cover flood damage or that there’s a 30-day waiting period before newly purchased coverage goes into effect. There’s also about a 25% chance of experiencing a flood during the life of a 30-year mortgage. Please note that, even if flood insurance is not considered mandatory by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a particular address, a mortgage-holder may require it in order to meet the requirements for a mortgage on that property.

Call the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) at (888) 379-9531, or go to www.floodsmart.gov to learn how to purchase flood insurance and become eligible for flood assistance through local programs. The NFIP Help Center (Claims) can be reached at (800) 427-4661.

To report Flooding & Drainage Complaints, call the City’s Emergency Management/Utilities Department at (954) 390-2190.