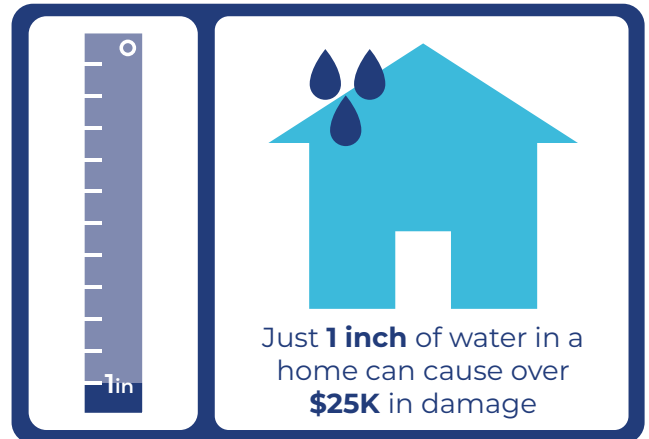


Do You Know Your Flood Risk?

Flooding is the most common natural disaster in the United States and portions of Newport News' landmass are within a high-risk flood zone or are located in an area that experiences urban flooding, also known as excessive runoff, that occurs when there is more rain than what can be absorbed into the soil. Newport News participates in the Federal Emergency Management Agency National Flood Insurance Program and is committed to sharing resources to help you assess your flood risk and protect your property. Ask these questions to make sure you are prepared for the next flood:

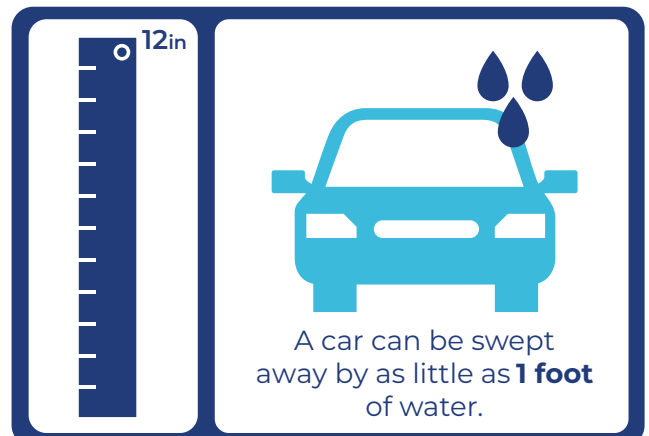
1 How can I help to minimize the impacts of urban flooding in my area?

There are a number of ways to reduce urban flooding throughout the City. Consider preserving open space and natural features, reducing impervious areas, using permeable pavement or pavers, planting native trees and plants, redirecting downspouts to vegetated areas, harvesting rainwater with a rain barrel or cistern, installing a rain garden or bioretention area, or installing a green roof.



2 What is my flood zone?

To find out if your property is located in a high-risk flood area or another flood zone, you can view the flood maps on the Virginia Flood Risk Information System website (<https://tinyurl.com/2cw7yyxa>).



3 Why is flood insurance important?

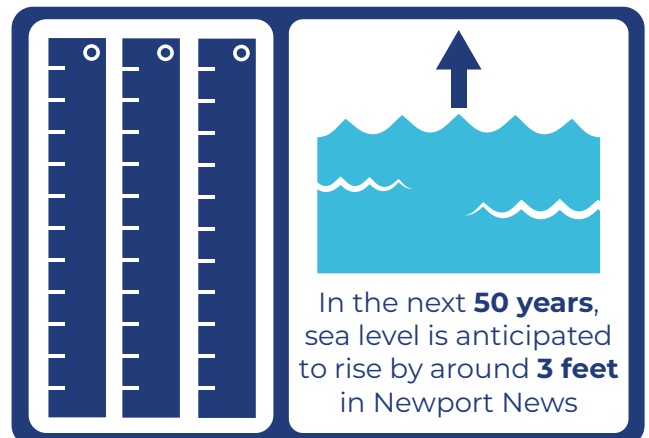
Most homeowners insurance policies do not cover flooding. Contact your insurance agent to learn about purchasing a flood insurance policy. A 15% discount is applied to all flood insurance policies issued or renewed in Newport News due to the City's participation in the Community Rating System.

4 How can I protect myself and others from flooding?

Avoid walking or driving through flood water, and remember, turn around, don't drown! Sign-up for City weather alerts through NNALERT (www.nnva.gov/1556/NN-ALERT).

5 How can I protect my property from flooding?

Consider installing flood vents, elevating mechanical and electrical equipment, or elevating your entire home above anticipated flood water levels.



6 How can I build more responsibly?

Before you build, fill, alter, or grade your property, always check with the Newport News Department of Codes Compliance at (757) 933-2311 to find out which permits apply. All new developments or any alterations, additions, or modifications to your building or land require a permit. City codes set minimum building standards but it is recommended to consider both current and future flooding conditions when building. Even if you live miles away from water, you could still be a victim of flooding.

7 Why is it important to protect natural floodplains?

Floodplains are any land area susceptible to being inundated by flood waters from any source. Floodplains slow and store flood waters, reducing the volume of water downstream and flood risk in other areas. Do your part to help protect natural floodplains by keeping flood-prone areas undeveloped and helping to keep our waterways clean. Always responsibly dispose of trash; don't dump leaves, debris, or grass clippings into waterways or storm drains, and report broken silt fences that keep streams clean.

The City is Available to Assist With:

- > Understanding your flood risk including the flood zone, flood elevation and if your property is located in an area of historic flooding or in or near Resource Protection Area.
- > Answering regulatory questions pertaining to flood protection, including building standards and development restrictions.

The City of Newport News is also undertaking a multi-year, master planning effort to tackle flooding challenges. Through this effort, the City is assessing current and future flood impacts to develop long-term flooding solutions throughout the City. Scan the QR code to learn more and tell us about your flood experience in Newport News. For more information, please email stormwater@nnva.gov.



SCAN WITH
YOUR PHONE

