

## Protect Floodplain

- Do not dump in the storm drains.
- Protect and preserve water resources by preventing harmful pollutants from being washed into local water bodies.
- Report broken silt fences: they help keep our streams clean.

## Build Responsibly

- Request a permit from the City of Ocala building division before you build.
- To find out if a property is in the Special Flood Hazard Area, visit our website at [www.ocalafl.org](http://www.ocalafl.org). Click the **Flood Information** icon. There, you will find information regarding:
  - Flood Insurance Rate Map
  - Historical Flooding Areas
  - Flood Depths
  - Natural Conservation Areas
  - Wetlands
  - Building in Floodplains Guide
  - Floodplain Protection Ideas
- Additionally, we offer FEMA Elevation Certificates on buildings constructed or substantially improved since 1991. Please view the "Elevation Certificate Map" on our website for more information.

If you have additional questions, give us a call and we will be happy to help!

## Protect your Property

- Demolish the building or relocate it out of harm's way.
- Elevate the building above the flood level.
- Elevate damage-prone components, such as the furnace or the air conditioning unit.
- Flood-proof the building so water cannot get into it.
- Wet flood-proof portions of the building so water won't cause damage.
- Construct a berm or redirect drainage away from the building.
- Maintain nearby streams, ditches and storm drains so debris does not obstruct them.
- Correct sewer backup problems.
- For financial assistance or advice, please visit <http://bit.ly/OcalaFloodInformation>
- For further assistance, including a site visit, call Stormwater Engineering at 352-351-6733.



Stormwater

*A place to live, play, and prosper*

## Flood Information



Ocala Public Works: 352-351-6733

[www.ocalafl.org](http://www.ocalafl.org)

[www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)

## Know your Flood Hazard

FEMA defines a flood zone as land areas with varying levels of flood risk. An area is determined based on factors such as rainfall, topography and river-flow data.

Is your property subject to flooding? For more information regarding the City of Ocala flood zones, please visit [www.ocalafl.org](http://www.ocalafl.org) → Residents → Flood Information

## Insure your Property

### YOU NEED FLOOD INSURANCE

Maintaining a flood insurance policy is significant to protect yourself and reduce the cost of flood disasters. Flooding is not covered by a standard homeowner's insurance policy.

### FLOOD FACT FEMA

- Floods are the most common natural disaster. Eighty percent of all disasters declared major by the president are floods.

## Get Flood Warnings

### GET WARNED

- **CodeRed** is a City of Ocala service by which residents and businesses can register to be notified by telephone, text and/or email regarding emergencies or critical protective actions. For information, please visit [www.ocalafl.org](http://www.ocalafl.org) under the "Emergency Alerts" section.
- **AlertMarion** is a Marion County service that is similar to CodeRed for residents outside of the City Limits. For information go to [www.alertmarion.com](http://www.alertmarion.com)

### WEATHER AND STORM ALERTS

- NOAA Weather Alert Radio: The National Weather Service operates the All Hazards Weather Alert Radio Network.
- Modern All Hazards Weather Alert Radios can be programmed specifically to the local area so you will only hear warnings that apply to the local area. This feature is called S.A.M.E. known as Specific Area Message Encoding.
- To receive the broadcast for Ocala tune in to **162.525 MHz**. The SAME code for Marion County is **12083**.

## Protect your Family

Floods are unpredictable natural disasters. If you encounter a flood, there are actions you can take to protect your family and keep your property losses to a minimum.

### BEFORE THE FLOOD:

- Keep a battery-powered or hand-cranked radio tuned to a local station for emergency instructions.
- If waters start to rise inside your home before you have evacuated, retreat to the second floor, the attic or the roof if necessary. Be prepared with a flashlight, radio and dry clothes. Wait for help, do not try and swim to safety.

### DURING THE FLOOD:

- Do not drive through a flooded road. Find an alternative route to take. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else.
- Do not walk through flooded areas.
- Stay away from power lines that have been damaged by the storm/flood. Electrocution is another major source of death in flood situations.

### AFTER THE FLOOD:

- If your home or business has been damaged by a flood, contact the insurance company who handles your flood insurance to file a claim.

More information on coping with a flood can be found at [www.ocalafl.org](http://www.ocalafl.org) under the "Flood Information" section.

**National Forest FLASH FLOOD BULLETIN**  
Spring 2013

A FLASH FLOOD is a rapid rise of water in a low-lying area, usually created by an intense storm that produces heavy rainfall in a short amount of time.

Flash floods can occur suddenly, on any forest.

Be alert for changing weather conditions while visiting the forest.

Always be weather ready.

Only 24 inches of rushing water can carry away most any vehicle, including SUVs and pickups.

When flood waters rise, climb to safety.

During an intense thunderstorm, a creek only 6 inches deep surrounded by rugged terrain can swell in less than an hour, and become a 10-foot-deep raging river.

The National Weather Service is our nation's exclusive and trusted source for weather forecasts and warnings.

Your safety is your responsibility.

Remember, city sirens don't exist out in nature.

WHEN FLOODED TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN

This weather safety bulletin is from the USDA Forest Service and forest managers in your community.