



# KNOW YOUR FLOOD HAZARD AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

More than 20 percent of flood insurance claims come from people outside of mapped high-risk flood areas.

## Protect your Family and Property from Flooding

### Flooding in Hallandale Beach

Wherever it rains, it can flood! This information is offered to help protect your property and reduce potential losses due to flooding. The City of Hallandale Beach is dedicated to assisting its residents and businesses to reduce the hazardous effects of flooding in our community.

**Local Flood Hazard** Flooding can occur due to heavy rains over a short period of time, especially at times of high tide. The waterways are influenced by tides that contribute to drainage and flooding problems in the city. When there is a high tide and heavy rainfall, the storm drainage system will rapidly fill from both surface run-off and tidal water, increasing the likelihood of flood conditions in our streets, swale areas, and lawns.

Storm surge may affect our City. Any storm surges experienced here will most likely be as a result of a hurricane or tropical storm, typically from June 1 through November 30 each year. The City of Hallandale Beach is actively working to mitigate flooding in the city.

**City Flood Services** The City offers the following services to residents: Call the City at 954-457-1382 for access to the Flood Insurance Rate Maps to show if your property is: 1) in a Special Flood Hazard Area or may be affected by coastal erosion, 2) located in an area that has previously had flooding problems, 3) located near an area that should be protected because of its natural floodplain functions. The City will also provide informatoin on site specific elevations for mechanical equipment, elevation certificates, general information and brochures. **Call today to know your zone!** City Staff will offer advice and visit properties upon request to review its flood problem and explain ways to stop or prevent flood damage. Please contact the City at (954) 457-1386.

**Drainage System Maintenance** A serious risk to the safety of residents is the blockage of catch basins by debris which prevents proper drainage. It is a violation of our City Ordinances to dump debris of any sort, including grass clippings, into canals or storm drains. Please report violations to the Code Compliance Division at (954) 457-1390. If you live near areas where waters flow or near a catch basin, you can help by keeping storm grates and the banks clear of brush and debris. All private stormwater management facilities are required to maintain their own systems, and the City offers private property stormdrain cleaning services. For more information, call the Stormwater Division at (954) 457-1620.

Report a Concern  
Visit our app   
REPORT. IMMEDIATE. RESPONSE.



## Flood Safety

**Do not walk through flowing water!** Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet.

**Do not drive through a flooded area!** Don't drive around road barriers. Canals or ponds may not be distinguishable from roads.

**Stay away from power lines and electrical wires!** Electrical current can travel through water.

**Look out for animals, especially snakes!** Small animals that have been flooded out of their homes may seek shelter in yours.

**Look before you step!** After a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris including broken glass and nails and can be very slippery.

**Be alert for gas leaks!** Don't smoke or use candles, lanterns or open flames until the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated.

**Flood Warning System** In cases where flooding might occur during emergency situations, local radio and television stations will provide critical information as part of the Emergency Broadcast System. Hallandale Beach and Broward County depend on the National Weather Service (NWS) for flood notification. Broadcast methods of emergency notices include the City of Hallandale Beach Radio Station 1620 AM WQFQ and HB TV Channel 78 on Comcast Government Access Channel. Channel 78 will be utilized during emergencies to provide up-to-date information regarding the event including evacuation orders, shelter openings, emergency phone numbers, sandbag distribution, and more. During emergencies the City will publish the latest information on its website, [www.cohb.org](http://www.cohb.org).

Each resident should make evacuation and sheltering plans well in advance of the emergency.

**Property Protection** You should know what to do to minimize flood damage to your property. "Flood proofing" means making physical alterations to your building that improve the ability of property and structures to withstand the damages caused by flooding. You should take action now to minimize losses to your property and possessions. Dry flood proofing includes sealing or waterproofing with special materials and compounds which provide a chemical or physical barrier against water intrusion during times of flooding. Construction of a small flood wall or earthen berm, or redirecting drainage to keep water away from the building is another example of property protection. Call the City at (954) 457-1386 for more information or search the Broward County Library for "Flood" information. Always obtain a permit before you make any improvements to your property. Contact the Building Division at 954-457-1390 before you alter, re-grade or perform any improvements to your property. You may also call this number to report any violations.

**Flood Insurance** Property losses due to flooding are not covered under standard homeowners' or renters' insurance policies. Two types of flood insurance coverage are available; building and contents coverage. Contents coverage should be purchased by renters. There are over 14,600 flood insurance policies in force in the City of Hallandale Beach. Flood insurance coverage may be mandatory for some mortgage loans. If you don't have flood insurance for your property and its contents, contact your insurance agent today. Information is also available from the [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov) website (or call 888-379-9531) or contact the City for flood insurance advice at 954-457-1382.

Don't wait until the next storm season to buy flood insurance as there is usually a 30-day waiting period before a flood insurance policy takes effect.



**Protect Natural Floodplain Functions** Floodplains absorb much more rain and floodwaters than urbanized areas, reducing flood flows on downstream properties. Floodplains can also be beneficial in their ability to recharge the Biscayne Aquifer which helps to reduce some of the negative effects of drought. Plants filter stormwater runoff, making it cleaner for those downstream. One of the City's primary drainage canals, the SE 14th Avenue Canal is lined with numerous mangrove trees, which are particularly important in maintaining the ecosystem of the area. In the City of Hallandale Beach the beach and the dune system are our first line of defense against storms because they act as a buffer between the storm waves and coastal development. During hurricanes, storm waves encounter the beach and dunes before crashing into upland structures. In both Broward County and Hallandale Beach, there are many policies intended to protect coastal resources that could, in turn decrease the risk from storm surge and flooding. You can help to keep our beautiful beach in its natural condition by observing the following rules:

- Sea oats and other beach plants help stabilize our sand dunes. Enjoy them, but don't pick them – it's illegal.
- No walking off marked paths.

