



KNOW YOUR RISK OF FLOODING



Flood risk still exists!

Find out about the flood hazards on your property and ways you can protect it from flooding:

**Call the City of Tulsa
Customer Care Center:**
311 or (918) 596-7777

Visit Us Online:
www.cityoftulsa.org/floodcontrol
www.floodsmart.gov



City of Tulsa
Engineering Services



Floods are the number-one disaster in the United States. Whether you live close to rivers and creeks or far from a body of water, everyone is at risk — wherever it can rain, it can flood. In fact, a home located in a high-risk flood area is more likely to be damaged by a flood than by a fire.

Tulsa has created an award-winning, comprehensive floodplain management program that is cited as a national model. Overall, the risk of flooding in Tulsa has been substantially reduced—but it's still important for you to **know the facts about flooding** and what you can do to prevent damage and risk to life.

Visit Floodsmart.gov to find out more about what you can do about your flood risk.



Important Flood Preparation Tips

- **Have 3 ways to get watch & warning info**, including downloading the **Tulsa Ready** phone app.
- **Create a plan** to protect your business or home in case of flooding.
- **Keep photocopies of records**, inventory, insurance policies, deeds, automobile titles, credit card account numbers and other valuable papers at a location away from your house.
- **Get a building permit** when constructing in flood-prone areas or when installing safe rooms in flood prone areas.
- Keep water away from your house by **re-grading your lot. Use Low Impact Development (LID) techniques** to prevent or reduce flooding on your property.
- **Install check valves on sewer lines** to prevent back-ups into the house.
- **Keep emergency flood materials** like sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting and lumber handy for emergencies.
- **Keep storm drains cleared from debris** such as leaves and grass clippings. Clogged storm drains can cause flooding when it rains.
- **All storm sewer systems in Tulsa drain to the Arkansas River or Bird Creek.** To learn how to prevent water back-up, visit [tulsastreams.com](https://www.tulsastreams.com).



How to Be Safe in a Flood

- Remember the phrase **“Turn Around, Don’t Drown”** and avoid driving through a flooded area.
- When seeking shelter during severe weather, **avoid flood-prone areas** such as culverts or drainage ditches.
- Flood waters can rise rapidly. **Be prepared to evacuate** before the water reaches your property.
- If you’re caught in the house by floodwater, **move to the second floor or to the roof.** Take warm clothing, a flashlight, and a mobile device and/or radio with you. Wait for help.
- **Don’t walk through flowing water!** Currents can be deceptive – 6 inches of moving water can sweep you off your feet.
- When rising water from creeks, streams, or rivers is projected to threaten structures in the area, **outdoor warning sirens will be activated** – the warning will be an alternating high-low siren that lasts for three minutes and will repeat every 30 minutes for the duration of the flood risk.



Recovering from a Flood

- **Report flooding** inside a building as soon as possible by calling the City of Tulsa’s Customer Care Center (311).
- **Before entering a flooded building**, check for structural damage and turn off outside gas lines to your meter. Let the building air out for several minutes before entering.
- **Watch for electrical shorts and live wires** while turning off the main power switch. Stay away from power lines and electrical wires – electricity can travel through water.
- **Cover broken windows and holes in the roof or walls** to prevent further weather damage.
- **Proceed with immediate cleanup measures** to reduce any health hazards. Take pictures of items being discarded and show them to the insurance appraiser for verification.
- City of Tulsa **building permits are required prior to making any repairs** to a flood damaged building.



Important Facts About Flood Insurance

- **Buy a flood insurance policy.**
- Typical homeowner’s insurance policies **do not cover flood losses.**
- According to FEMA, **your home has a 26 percent chance of flooding** during the life of a 30-year mortgage if located in the 100-year (1%) floodplain.
- Up to 25 percent of all flood insurance claims come from flooded structures **outside of high-risk flood zones.**
- City of Tulsa residents receive a **45 percent discount on flood insurance** for their homes.
- **Renters can purchase insurance coverage** for their contents even if the owner does not insure the structure.