

If the floor level of your property is lower than the “Base Flood Elevation” (elevation of the 100-year flood, based on the FEMA maps), consider elevating your structure, if possible.

### **Build Responsibly**

Construction projects within the City require a building permit. Contact the Community Development Department at 742.6010 to confirm all applicable permits are on file and inspections are scheduled or to report suspected permitting violations.

Permits are required when re-grading your property, bringing in fill and/or working near a creek or stream.

### **Emergency Supplies**

Make sure you have non-perishable food, water, batteries, flashlights, a manual can opener, and a battery-operated weather radio ready for emergency situations.

### **What should you do DURING a flood?**

#### **Protect People from the Hazard**

Each year, more deaths occur due to flooding than any other thunderstorm related hazard. Avoid low-lying areas. Seek shelter in the highest areas possible.

Never drive, walk or swim in flood waters. It takes 12” of rushing water to carry away most cars and 6” of water to knock over an adult.

**Protect yourself and your family,  
Turn Around, Don't Drown!**

### **What should you do AFTER a flood?**

- Listen to the radio for emergency instructions.
- Avoid driving if possible.
- Follow established procedures for property damage repairs:

Select a contractor who is licensed in his trade. Verify that contractors are licensed before signing or agreeing to any repair contracts. It is also recommended that you verify certification of liability and workman's compensation insurance.

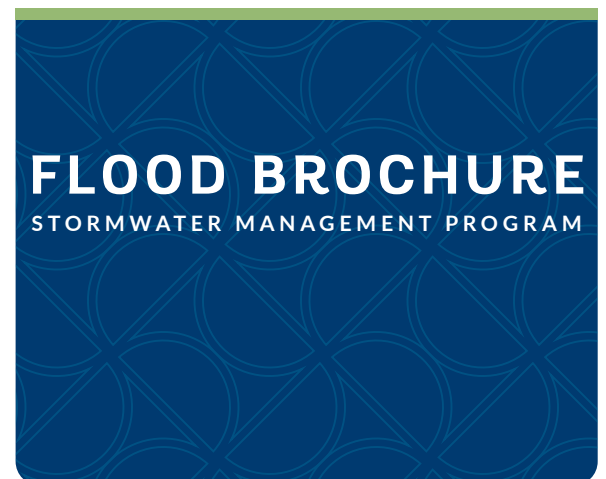
Contractors are required to obtain the proper permits before performing any work. Permits are required for any permanent improvement (ex. roofing, electrical work, plumbing, siding, room additions, alterations, etc.) to a structure and for site work such as grading, filling, etc. Permits are required even if a homeowner is doing the work himself.

If you have permit questions contact the Community Development Department at 742-6010.

**Flooding and Floodplain Management sites**  
[community.fema.gov/Protective Actions/s/msc.fema.gov/portal/home](http://community.fema.gov/ProtectiveActions/s/msc.fema.gov/portal/home)  
[cityofshawnee.org/stormwater](http://cityofshawnee.org/stormwater)

*This information is provided by the City of Shawnee for Shawnee property owners.*

*If you reside in a jurisdiction outside of Shawnee, contact your regulatory authority for information.*



# ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A FLOOD IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

## Know Your Flood Hazard

You might not know it, but floods are one of the most common disasters in the United States. Flooding is caused by many different conditions including heavy rains and storms, snowmelt, overflows of dams or other water systems. Be aware of flood risks in your area and pay close attention to flood watches and warnings in your community.

Shawnee has numerous creeks and streams and is bordered by the Kansas River. If your property is subject to flooding by the Kansas River or if you are in a repetitively flooded area, you can contact the Public Works Department to find out about the flood hazard in your community. City staff will be able to inform you about the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulated floodplain and any Special Flood Hazard Areas. Being informed is the first step to being prepared for a flood.

## What should you do BEFORE a flood?

### Determine if Your Property is Located in an Area Subject to Flooding

The following areas have a known potential for flooding:

- 45th & Lakecrest
- 63rd & Clare
- 70th & Ogg
- 71st & Clare
- 71st & Gleason
- 71st & Woodland
- 75th & Martindale
- Shawnee Mission Parkway & Goddard

This is not a complete list of areas that have potential for flooding but a list of areas where flooding has occurred in the past. Not all properties located within these areas are prone to flooding.

If your neighborhood is not listed, your property may still be within a flood zone, as designated by FEMA maps. Upon request, the Public Works Department will make free flood zone determinations for properties within the City. FEMA flood maps can also be found at [msc.fema.gov/portal/home](https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home)

If located in an "A" Zone, your property is within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), which is an area that has been determined to have the potential for flooding. Flood insurance is mandatory in all "A" Zones.

The Community Development Department maintains elevation certificates for many properties within the City. Elevation Certificates are available for review when requested.

### Purchase Flood Insurance for Your Property

Flooding is not covered by a standard homeowner's insurance policy. A separate flood insurance policy is required to cover damages incurred by flooding. Coverage is available for the building itself as well as for the contents of the building. The City participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that makes available federally backed flood insurance for all structures, whether or not they are located within the floodplain.

Shawnee also participates in the NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) Program. Shawnee is a "Class 6" community and that rating provides a 20% discount to all Shawnee property owners, that purchase flood insurance.

Contact your insurance agent to inquire about Flood Insurance for your property.

### Protect Natural Floodplain Functions

Keeping drainage channels free of obstructions reduces flooding in the event of heavy rains. Per Shawnee Municipal Code - it is illegal to dump trash, leaves, landscape debris, paint, oil or any other contaminant into any portion of the City's drainage system. Dumping debris and/or chemicals can have a devastating impact on water quality, can negatively impact aquatic life and can lead to flooding.

Contact the Public Works Department at 742.6313 to report illegal dumping or for stormwater questions.

### Protect Your Property From Flooding

There are many things you can do to reduce your flood risk. Improve grading on your property to make certain stormwater runs away from your building, routinely clean gutters and ditches of debris, reduce impervious (hard surfaces) on your property and create natural green spaces and install a sump pump. Make certain all of your valuable possessions and documents are in a safe location and off of the floor.