



# Winter rains are on the way

**Fall and winter are Portland's rainy seasons. There are steps you can take to be prepared, especially if you live in a floodplain.**

# Winter rains are here

Recent national flooding events are a reminder that without proper management, stormwater runoff can contribute to flooding, causing damage to roads and property. Environmental Services combines both grey infrastructure like storm drains and pipes with green infrastructure like

green street planters, trees and watershed restoration to help manage runoff, reduce flooding, and protect water quality in our rivers and streams. **There is still work to be done. If you live or work in a floodplain, here are some important things you should keep in mind.**

- Avoid walking or driving through floodwaters. If

**STAY SAFE**

- you can't, use a stick to steady yourself going through flowing water.
- Learn how to assemble a disaster supplies kit at [www.portlandoregon.gov/pbem/kit](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/pbem/kit).
- Stay away from downed power lines and report them to your electric utility: **PGE at 1-800-542-8818** or **Pacific Power at 1-877-508-5088**.

**CHECK YOUR INSURANCE**



Basic homeowners insurance doesn't cover flood damage. If you have a mortgage and live in the 100-year floodplain, you're probably required to carry flood insurance. Portland residents get a 20% discount on flood insurance because Portland participates in FEMA's Community Rating System. For more information on flood insurance, go to **FloodSmart.gov**.

**CONSTRUCTION** and adding or moving soil in the floodplain requires permits. Call 503-823-6892 before you build for more information. If you see construction without a city permit sign posted, call 503-823-CODE.

**BE INFORMED**



- Find out if your home or business is in a floodplain. At **PortlandMaps.com**, enter your address. Click on "Public Safety," then click on "FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area."
- Check local radio and television stations for weather and flood information.
- Go to [www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/rfc](http://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/rfc) to get river level information.
- Check Portland weather conditions from Portland National Weather Service at [www.wrh.noaa.gov/pqr](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/pqr) or **503-261-9246**.
- Subscribe to the city's public emergency notifications at **PublicAlerts.org**.
- Follow **@PublicAlerts** on Twitter.

**PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY**

- Make an inventory of your property.
- Shut off the gas and electricity and move valuable contents upstairs if you know a flood is coming.

Environmental Services is committed to providing meaningful access. For accommodations, modifications, translation, interpretation or other services, please contact at 503-823-7740, or use City TTY 503-823-6868, or Oregon Relay Service 711.

Traducción o interpretación

Chuyển Ngữ hoặc Phiên Dịch

翻译或传译

Письменный или устный перевод

Traducere sau Interpretare

Письмовий або усний переклад

翻訳または通訳

Turjumida ama Fasiraadda

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الترجمة التحريرية أو الشفهية

📞 **503-823-7740**

# Prepare your home for winter rains

To protect your home from local flooding, remember to:

**Check your gutters.** Clear them of leaves and debris. Caulk leaks and holes. Make sure gutters are tilted to direct water to downspouts and have no low or sagging spots.

**Check your downspouts.** Make sure your downspouts are unclogged and either connected to the standpipe, or safely directing water away from your home and your neighbor's property.

**Check for drainage.** Make sure the ground, driveway and any paved patios drain away from building foundations.

**For technical assistance regarding drainage on your property, call 503-823-5858 or email [drainage.inquiries@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:drainage.inquiries@portlandoregon.gov).**



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
CITY OF PORTLAND

working for clean rivers

**Nick Fish, Commissioner**  
**Michael Jordan, Director**

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