

CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID FLOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION



Are you at risk? Find out before it is too late

What is it?

In 1968 Congress created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This program provides flood insurance at a reasonable cost in exchange for the careful management of flood prone areas by local communities. The City of South Euclid participates in the NFIP; you can protect your home and contents through the NFIP.

Why should you purchase flood insurance?

Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. However, because South Euclid participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can purchase a separate flood insurance policy. Flood insurance covers the building and its contents. Renters can insure their possessions. Everyone in the City is eligible to purchase flood insurance. You do not have to live in the floodplain to qualify. Flood insurance covers all surface floods.

Where can I purchase Insurance?

You can purchase flood insurance from a licensed insurance agent. The Federal government backs this insurance.

Flood Hazard Areas

There are three floodplains in the City of South Euclid; Euclid Creek, a tributary to Euclid Creek and Nine-Mile Creek. A detailed floodplain map is available at the South Euclid-Lyndhurst Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library. Fortunately the City has been spared from floods in recent history. This fact however should not make us complacent. Hydrologic studies indicate that under specific circumstances, the floodplain can and will someday flood. If you live in the floodplain, the odds are that someday your property will be damaged.

Identifying Your Risk

Don't accept statements from present owners, neighbors or sellers that a property in question has never been flooded. Investigate for yourself. The local library contains floodplain maps, instructions for interpreting these maps and flood protection publications. The City Engineer, Service Department and Building Department can help you with your floodplain questions. The City Engineer can help you determine if your property is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area and provide assistance for drainage problems on or near your property. For technical assistance such as identifying the causes and ways of preventing or stopping flood damage to your property please call the Engineer at (216) 731-6255.

What Can You Do?

Several of the City's efforts depend on your cooperation and assistance. Here is how you can help:
Do not dump or throw anything into ditches, streams and detention basins. Dumping in streams and ditches is a violation of local regulations; it should be reported to the South Euclid Service Department or City Engineer immediately. Even yard waste can plug an existing watercourse resulting in flooding. If you live next to a ditch or stream, please help keep the banks clear of debris and heavy vegetation. Call the City Service Department for major blockages such as downed trees. All development in the floodplain, not just building construction, requires a permit. Before you buy or build in the floodplain, contact the Building Department for details. Contact the Building Department or City Engineer if you suspect illegal development in the floodplain.

Floodproofing

There are several ways to minimize flood damage to your home. Regrading your property so that water is direct away from structures is an example of one of these methods. The Building Department or City Engineer can help you with this and other methods.

Basement flooding from sewer backup is a major problem in the City. This problem is being addressed as part of an ongoing citywide rehabilitation and reconstruction project. Installing a plug or standpipe can help eliminate backup. Overhead plumbing is also a method for eliminating sewer backup.

More information about these methods and other floodproofing and retrofitting measures are available at the South Euclid-Lyndhurst branch of the Cuyahoga County Library.

Flood Safety and evacuation tips

Plan escape routes to higher ground.

During heavy rainfall, monitor the level of water in drainage ways. Stay tuned to local radio and television for possible flood warnings.

Evacuate the flood hazard areas in times of impending flood or when advised to do so by the Police or Fire Department.

Do not attempt to cross a flooding stream on foot or by car.

If your car stalls in high water, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground.

Keep children away from flood waters, ditches, culverts and storm drains.

If a flood threatens your home, protect your property by:

Opening basement windows to let water in to equalize pressure.

Moving important or expensive items to a higher floor.

Putting small appliances in plastic bags and storing in a high place.

Remembering to lock your house if you must evacuate.

Turning off water, gas and electric service at shut off points.

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