



December 2019

## **Flooding – America’s #1 Natural Hazard!**

### **Read these 6 priority topics to become flood smart and prepared!**

#### **1) Know your flood hazard**

It is important for residents to find out if their property falls in an area where flooding is a hazard. Properties located in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) contain floodplain or are flood prone. Contact Katherine Francesconi [kfrancesconi@peachtreecornersga.gov](mailto:kfrancesconi@peachtreecornersga.gov) or the City of Peachtree Corner’s Floodplain Map to find out if your property is located in SFHA.

#### **2) Insure your property for flood hazard**

Not only is it mandatory for a property located in the SFHA to purchase flood insurance, but it is a wise decision to do so. Consider purchasing flood insurance before the storm and contact your insurance agent!

#### **3) Practice Flood Safety**

Deceptive in nature, floods can quickly become life threatening. Listening for flood warnings on local television stations and having an evacuation plan in place is key to avoiding dangerous situations. Note that a flood watch means conditions are favorable for flash flooding while a flood warning means that flash flooding is about to happen. DO NOT drive through a flood area and DO NOT walk through flowing water (one foot of flowing water can sweep you away).

#### **4) Protect your property**

You can protect your property by floodproofing basements, ensuring downspouts are pointed downhill and away from home, store valuables in waterproof containers. The City provides one-on-one advice specific to your property about how you could better equip your property to be resistant to flood damage. If you would like to discuss possibilities of improvement, please call our Stormwater Engineer, Katherine Francesconi at (470) 395-7033 to schedule an appointment.

#### **5) Build Responsibly**

Prior to any building, please contact the Building Department at (470) 550 - 1729. Building in the floodplain can cause water levels to rise, worsening flooding. Land development changes the natural hydrologic system and forces water to find a new path.

#### **6) Protect natural floodplain functions**

Peachtree Corners is located along the Chattahoochee river and has a number of small streams and tributaries throughout the city. Washing any trash or debris into our stormwater system and environment, directly impacts our floodplain and drinking water supplies.

This is a public service announcement to bring awareness to the various resources provided by the City of Peachtree Corners for floodplain awareness. Peachtree Corners is bordered by the Chattahoochee river to the north and, also contains tributaries and streams throughout the City. Flooding damage can occur due to large rainfall events or when the natural flow of water is redirected. A wealth of information can be found on the City's Floodplain Management webpage that pertains to:

- Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) – the only legal document allowed to be used by lenders to write a flood insurance policy.
- Floodway Data – Properties located in or near the floodplain have special regulatory requirements for development. Prior to any building construction, please apply for a building permit
- Special flood-related hazards – such as local drainage problems, areas predicted to be flooded in the future, and erosion
- Approximate Depth of Flooding – information about how deep flood waters can be anticipated on a property can be provided
- Historical flood information – to find out if a property has been flooded in the past or is a repetitive loss
- Wetlands and Natural Conservation Data – areas mapped in the: National Wetlands Inventory, critical habitat by the US Fish and Wildlife Services, areas receiving natural floodplain functions
- Flood Insurance – it is mandatory for a property located in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) to purchase flood insurance

Please visit the City's Floodplain management webpage at

<https://www.peachtreecornersga.gov/government/public-works/stormwater/floodplain-management>

**Property Protection Advice:**

The City provides one-on-one advice specific to your property. If you are concerned and have any questions pertaining to flood insurance or are in need of any flood protection advice, please contact the City's Certified Floodplain Manager, Katherine Francesconi at

[kfrancesconi@peachtreecornersga.gov](mailto:kfrancesconi@peachtreecornersga.gov) to schedule an on-site appointment or discussions can take place over the telephone or in person.