

Floodplain Development Permit

Any construction performed in the floodplain must have a floodplain development permit. This includes grading, filling, residential construction and commercial construction. To obtain a permit you must complete an application. Applications can be picked up at the Department of Building and Safety, or found online at lincoln.ne.gov. Complete and return the form to the Department of Building and Safety along with three sets of plans for the project. The plans must clearly show and state that the proposed development will be in compliance with current floodplain regulations. If you observe any work being performed in a floodplain without a permit, contact the Department of Building and Safety.

Substantial Improvement/Damage

Substantial improvements include any construction, remodel, addition, or alteration to a structure which costs greater than 50 percent of the current market value. Substantial damage is similar to substantial improvement. Substantial damage may be caused by any means, not only from flooding. It is defined as damage costing more than 50 percent of the predamaged market value of the structure to repair. These terms are important to understand because the City of Lincoln participates in the NFIP program. Under the NFIP any structure that is substantially improved or damaged must be brought into compliance with current floodplain regulations. For more information, contact the Department of Building and Safety.

Drainage System

Dumping in streams, ponds, and the drainage system in Lincoln is strictly prohibited according to Section 8.22.100 of the Lincoln Municipal Code. Trash, leaves, dirt, and any liquid other than water are included under this section and should, under no circumstances, be dumped in storm drains, streams or lakes. Improper dumping can be harmful because all of the stormwater drains and streams eventually run together into streams and lakes such as Holmes Lake. Any pollutants or other items dumped into the drain systems will contaminate the water and can plug up the storm drainage system which can result in flooding. On some of the inlets to the storm drains you will find anti-dumping logos glued or stamped into the concrete. These serve as a reminder to protect our natural

resources and to protect yourself from flooding due to blockage of drains. To report illegal dumping or for more information, contact the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

Flood Warning System

Floods are most likely to occur in the rainy months from April to August. Residents should tune their radios and TVs to local stations for weather advisories. The following stations will broadcast local weather warnings:







Radio
KFOR 1240 AM, 103.3 FM
KLMS 1480 AM
KFRX 106.3 FM
KIBZ 104.1 FM
KZKX 96.9 FM
KTGL 92.9 FM
KLIN 1400 AM
KBBK 107.3 FM
KFGE 98.1 FM
KLNC 105.3 FM
KRKR 95.1 FM

Television
KOLN-KGIN 10-11
KLKN 8
LNKTV (2 on ALLO,
1300 on Spectrum,
1005 on Kinetic)

The Lancaster County Department of Emergency Management stays in direct contact with the National Weather Service. In case of a flood threat, a network of warning gauges and human spotters monitor current local conditions. If a flood threat is detected, they will interrupt local cable TV programming to deliver the warning message. In case of a voluntary or mandatory flood evacuation declaration, local police and fire personnel will help facilitate the process. Even with the warning system, individuals should know their evacuation routes. If you feel unsafe at any time, you should evacuate and go to higher ground.

For more information about flooding, go to lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: floodplain) or contact the Department of Building and Safety.

Services Provided

-  Elevation certificate copies
-  Floodplain permit questions
-  Drainage concerns
-  Sediment in street
-  Flood zone determination
-  Questions about flood insurance

For questions or concerns regarding any of the above services, call 402-441-7882

Local Levee Inundation Area

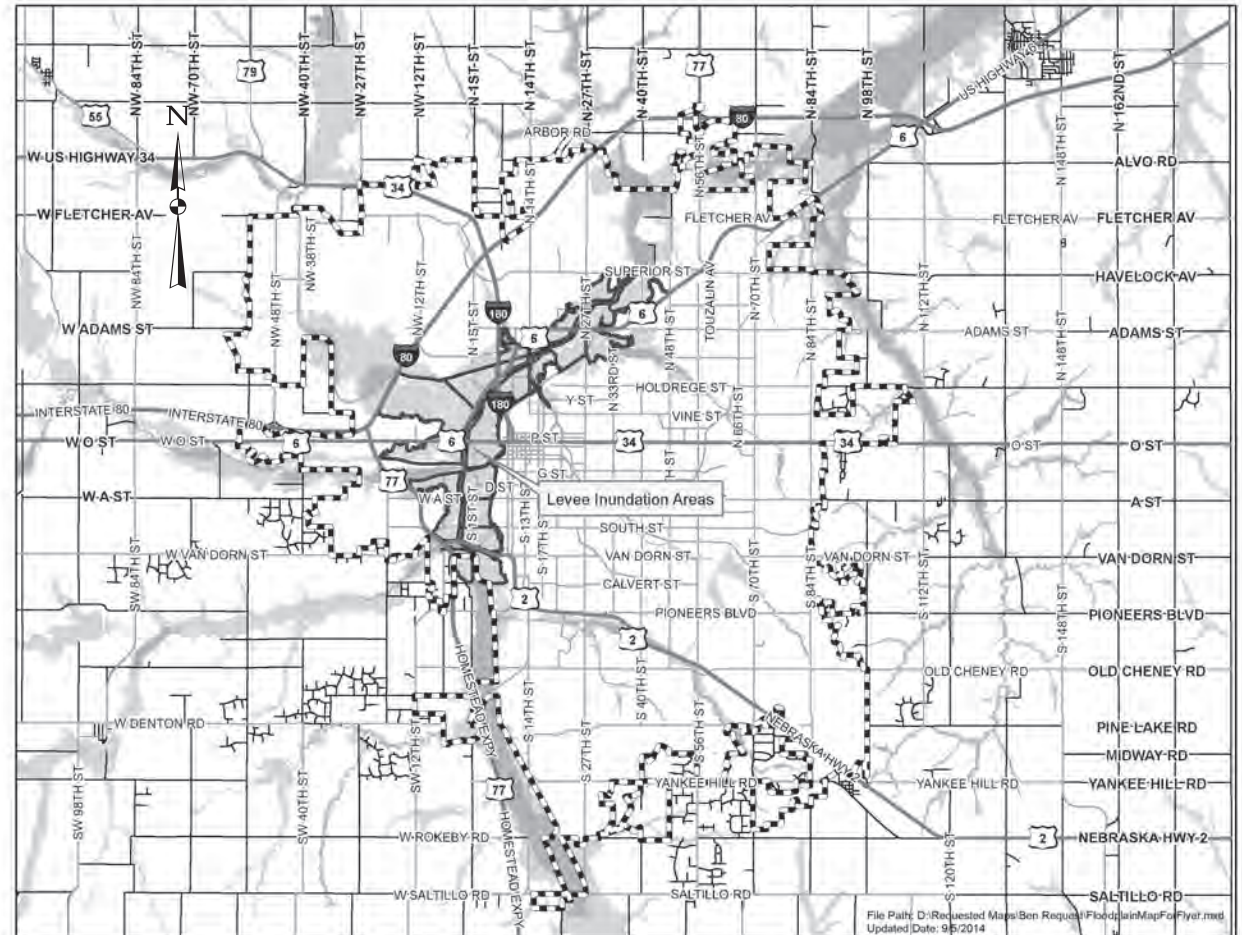
The Salt Creek Levee is located along both sides of Salt Creek from Calvert to Superior streets. The level of protection is adequate for a 50-year flood event that has a 2 percent chance of happening every year. The attached map shows the levee inundation area if the levee should overtop or fail. It is maintained by the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.

Floodplain Awareness:

1. Find out if you are in a floodplain or other area prone to flooding.
2. If so, obtain flood insurance.
3. Protect yourself and your family. Never enter a flooded area, and have a plan in the event of a flooding situation.
4. Protect your property. Learn about and consider elevating your structure or other preventative measures.
5. Build responsibly, and obtain a floodplain permit.
6. Protect the natural functions of streams to reduce flooding, improve stormwater quality and improve aesthetics.

Floodplain Map for Lincoln and Lancaster County

Shown below is the current floodplain map for the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County.



Current Floodplain Map for Lancaster County - Effective June 27, 2014

www.lincoln.ne.gov Keyword "floodplain map"

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This brochure is being set to you as City records indicate you have property in Lincoln that is in or near a Special Flood Hazard Area. This brochure contains information you should know regarding floodplains and other local flood hazards.

Local Flood Hazard

Low lying areas in Lincoln are subject to periodic flooding from Salt Creek and its tributaries. Typically, the most severe flooding occurs in late spring and early summer as a result of heavy thunderstorm activity.

Flooding in Lincoln is caused by 11 main sources: Salt Creek, Oak Creek, Middle Creek, Antelope Creek, Beal Slough, Haines Branch, Cardwell Branch, Lynn Creek, Deadmans Run, Stevens Creek and Little Salt Creek. Flooding along Salt Creek and Oak Creek have large watershed basins that are susceptible to flooding after very heavy rainfalls. Warming times vary depending upon rainfall timing, amounts and conditions. Little Salt Creek, Middle Creek, Stevens Creek and Haines Branch have smaller drainage basins with a shorter period of flooding and less warning time prior to the peak. Flooding along Antelope Creek, Beal Slough, Cardwell Branch, Lynn Creek, and Deadmans Run occurs rapidly with little warning time prior to the peak.

Since 1900, 100 floods have been recorded along Salt Creek and its tributaries in and near Lincoln. The Salt Creek flood in May of 1950 resulted from a thunderstorm that dumped 11 inches of rainfall in a six-hour period over the Salt Creek drainage basin. Nearly 20,000 acres were flooded, and nine people died. Basin damages were estimated at \$2.9 million dollars. If a repeat flood event of this magnitude were to occur now, it could result in greater damages and greater loss of life.

To protect yourself, know your local flood hazard and know what to do in case a flood warning has been issued in your area.

Flood Safety

Here's what you can do to prepare for flood emergencies:

1. Know the risk of a flood occurring in your area. If you are unsure, call the Department of Building and Safety.
2. Reduce your potential flood losses by raising your water heater, electrical panel, and other service facilities if they are located in an area of your home subject to flooding.
3. Check to see if you have insurance that covers flooding, and if not call your

insurance representative to find out how to acquire flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program.

4. Assemble a disaster supplies kit.

5 Things to Remember During a Flood

1. Don't walk through flowing water.
2. Don't drive through a flooded area.
3. Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.
4. Look out for animals in your home during and after a flood.
5. Always look before you step. Debris could be harmful or slippery.

Flood Insurance

Regular homeowners insurance does not cover damage caused by flooding.

Fortunately, the City of Lincoln participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The NFIP provides federally backed flood insurance for all structures, whether in the floodplain or not. Flood insurance covers direct losses caused by surface flooding from rivers or lakes, or from local drainage problems. The NFIP insures buildings, including mobile homes, with two types of coverage: structural and contents. Structural coverage is for walls, floors, insulation, furnace and other items permanently attached to the structure. Insurance for personal contents in the home can be purchased separately from structural coverage.

For buildings in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) --commonly known as the 100-year floodplain -- there is an NFIP mandatory flood insurance purchase requirement which applies to all forms of federal or federally related financial assistance. The requirement affects all loans and grants for the purchase, construction, repair or improvement of any publicly or privately owned building in the SFHA.

How It Works

Before a person can receive a property loan from a federal agency or lender, it must be determined if the property is located in an SFHA. This is done by checking the 100-year floodplain mapped on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Copies of these maps are available to review at the Department of Building and Safety or at <https://bit.ly/3dA2H60>. If the building is in an SFHA, the lender is required by law to require

the recipient to purchase a flood insurance policy. There is a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance goes into affect, so don't wait until it is too late. For more questions about flood insurance, contact your insurance agent.

Property Protection

You can take temporary or permanent measures to protect your home and property from damage during a flood. Two temporary measures to minimize flood damages would be to move all valuables to the highest floor in your structure. You may also use sand bags to divert water from your property.

A permanent measure is to re-grade your lot so water flows away from the structure, without sending drainage to your neighbor's property. In addition, you can build a flood wall or earthen berm for further protection. Another approach is to make your walls waterproof and place water-tight enclosures over the doorways. This method is generally used for commercial building applications, but can be adapted for use on a residential structure. This is only allowed for retrofit projects. You can also elevate the structure above the flood levels. This can be accomplished using pilings, fill or a new concrete foundation.

These methods are known as flood proofing and retrofitting. For more information, check your local library for FEMA technical assistance manuals or contact the Department of Building and Safety.

Natural Functions of the Floodplain

Undisturbed floodplains or floodplains that have been returned to their natural state have a wide range of benefits to both humans and natural ecological systems. Many of Lincoln's parks and golf courses are located within a floodplain. Another very important function of floodplains is to provide habitat for animals. This is especially important in Lincoln because of the salt marshes, which are located predominately within the floodplains. They support very fragile ecosystems containing many rare species such as the Salt Creek Tiger Beetle. Some additional functions of floodplains are:

- Natural flood storage and conveyance
- Water quality maintenance
- Ground water recharge
- Biological resources
- Human social resources

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