



# FLOOD HAZARD INFORMATION

St. Petersburg's many miles of shoreline provide gorgeous views and waterfront recreational access but also make the city susceptible to flooding, particularly during high tide. Fresh water flooding from excessive rainfall can also be a problem.

## **Flood Safety**

If you are advised to evacuate, turn off utilities at the main switches or valves. Disconnect electrical appliances, but do not touch any electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water. Avoid fast flowing water or unstable banks.

## **Flood Warning Advisory**

The Tampa Bay region, including the city of St. Petersburg, depends on the National Weather Service (NWS) office in Ruskin, Florida. Flood advisories are issued when excessive rainfall causes drainage systems to overflow and threaten structures due to flooding.

Radio station 100.7 WMTX-FM is the primary Emergency Alert System station for the Tampa Bay area. Emergency information is also broadcast on StPeteTV (Bright House Channel 641, WOW! Channel 15 or Verizon FiOs Channel 20). Learn what to do when a Flood Warning Advisory is issued, during, and after the flood, at [stpete.org/flood](http://stpete.org/flood).

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## **Flood Insurance**

Homeowners insurance does not provide coverage for damage to your home or its contents due to flooding. Separate coverage may be obtained through the federally-backed National Flood Insurance Program and these policies require a 30 day waiting period for coverage.

## **Flood Insurance Rate Maps**

The city provides Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) determinations, Elevation Certificates for some properties, flood hazard areas, if flood insurance is required, historical flood information, and natural floodplain functions. Call 727-893-SAVE (7283) for more information. Flood Insurance Rate Maps and parcel specific flood zone information are available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency at [msc.fema.gov](http://msc.fema.gov).

## **Storm Drain System Maintenance**

It is illegal for any direct or indirect discharge of any solid, liquid or gaseous matter into the city's drainage system. Such discharges also adversely affect water quality in our waterways.

The city makes routine inspections of the drainage system and removes blockages. Site visits are available for property owners experiencing flooding, drainage and sewer problems. Report violations or request a site visit through the Mayor's Action Center, 727-893-7111, or [stpete.org/actioncenter](http://stpete.org/actioncenter).

## **Site Visits**

A property owner may request a site visit to determine site specific flooding by calling 727-893-SAVE (7283), Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## **Financial Assistance**

There are several grant programs available that provide federal money to homeowners through the state and city to protect homeowners against future flood losses. To learn more about grant programs, please go to [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

