

## LOCAL FLOOD HAZARD

City of Odessa is dedicated to minimizing the loss of life and property due to flooding. Some areas in the City have experienced substantial flooding in the past. Potential for similar flooding due to heavy rainfall can be expected in the future. During heavy rainfall events, even storm drainage channels can overflow. Damaging floods within the City are known to have occurred in Odessa in 1936, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1967, 1974, 1976,

## FLOOD SAFETY TIPS

- Be aware whether or not your property insurance includes coverage for flood insurance.
- Have a SAFE EVACUATION PLAN to go to a safe shelter or higher grounds in case of an impending flood, or when advised by emergency officials.
- Stay tuned to the latest flood report broadcasts.
- Have an emergency kit ready, packed with items such as portable radio, flashlight, batteries, blankets, clothing, baby products, non-perishable foods, <sup>car</sup> opener, medicines, toilet articles, important papers, and valuables.
- Keep children away from flood waters, overflowing ditches, culverts and drains.

# FLOOD HAZARD AWARENESS



**CITY OF ODESSA  
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT  
(432) 335-3242**

[www.odessa-tx.gov](http://www.odessa-tx.gov)



- **TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN.** Do not walk or drive through flood waters higher than one foot.
- Be cautious at night.
- Watch for dangling electrical wires.

## FLOOD INSURANCE FACTS

Generally, homeowner's insurance policies do not cover property damage from floods. Flood insurance must be purchased separately to cover flood damage of properties. Property owners are required to purchase flood insurance if they seek federal or federally-related financial assistance on buildings located in a designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) (Refer to the map at the back.) You may purchase flood insurance even if you are not in a SFHA.

City of Odessa participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) offered by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which makes federally backed flood insurance available to its citizens thru insurance companies. NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program, which encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP standards. As a result of the City's administration of floodplain activities in conjunction with participation in the Community Rating System, the City of Odessa has received a rating of 7. This allows the citizens of our community who purchase flood insurance to appreciate a *fifteen percent (15%) discount from the applicable premium*. NFIP imposes a 30-day waiting period from date of purchase of flood insurance, so do not wait for a flood event to purchase flood insurance.

## PROPERTY PROTECTION

When the location of a new building is proposed in a flood zone, the City Ordinance § 3-12-17 requires the floor elevation to be constructed one foot above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE). All electric system, air conditioning equipment, and fuel tanks should be elevated to prevent flood damage. Detail information regarding retrofitting techniques and other flood plain information is available at Ector County Library for reference.

## NATURAL AND BENEFICIAL FUNCTIONS

The City of Odessa has designated a number of low lying flood plain areas as public parks for recreational use.

## FLOOD WARNING

During a severe storm, stay alert by tuning to your local television and radio stations for weather advisories.

## FLOODPLAIN PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

City of Odessa Ordinance § 3-12 requires issuance of floodplain Development Permits for any proposed development in the floodplain. Development may consist of residential, non-residential, mobile/manufactured homes, substantial or non-substantial improvements. Construction violating the Floodplain Management Regulations under § 3-12 of the City Ordinance shall be subject to penalties stipulated under § 3-12.

## SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT

§ 3-12 of the City Ordinance defines Substantial Improvement as reconstruction,

# CITY OF ODESSA FLOODPLAIN MAP

rehabilitation, addition or other improvements of an existing structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50% of the market value or 50% of the square footage. § 3-12 of the City Ordinance requires any substantial improvement to conform to new construction requirements and be elevated above the BFE.

## DRAINAGE CHANNEL MAINTENANCE

The City of Odessa maintains several concrete and dirt drainage channels in its right-of-way and drainage easements. Dumping of debris into channels can obstruct flow of storm water resulting in overflow of the drainage channels onto streets and yards. It is unlawful to dump any garbage or trash into the channels as per sections 13-4-8 and 13-4-10 of the City Ordinance. Debris dumping should be reported to the Street Department at 335-3241.

## LOCAL FLOOD MAPS/ INFORMATION

The city map on this brochure approximates the location the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA). You can view this map in a larger format on City of Odessa's website in webMAPS at [www.odessa-tx.gov](http://www.odessa-tx.gov). You can request an Elevation Certificate for any residential or commercial structure in the flood plain from the City Engineering Division for a fee and take it to your insurance agent for an accurate flood insurance premium quote. The City's engineering division can be contacted at 432-335-3242.

