

ARCADIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Diana M. Anderson, Chief

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March 7, 2019

You are receiving this letter because you are a resident within the City of Arcadia, which has the probability or high potential for flooding.

Recently we have received an abnormal amount of snow, and this potentially could result in the high probability of flooding in different areas throughout our city. In attempts to assist the business owners and residents within the potential flooding area, the City Emergency Management Team is being as proactive as they can.

We are asking for everyone's assistance, and want to make sure that you are also doing your part to protect your property and well-being if this event were to occur. Here are a few recommendations:

- 1) Consider relocating any personal property you have in basements that usually flood.
- 2) Make sure that your gutters and downspouts are not plugged. Remove any debris if you are able to and/or ice jams.
- 3) With all heavy snow, make sure snow is clear from your window wells, doorways or low windows on your foundation to prevent melting snow to run into these areas.
- 4) If you have access to sandbags or other materials, use them to protect your home from flood waters if you have sufficient time to do so.
- 5) Have a professional install check-valves in plumbing to prevent flood waters from backing up into drains of your home. Make sure your sump pump is working and consider having a backup. Make sure your electric circuit breakers, or fuses, are clearly marked for each area of your home.
- 6) Since standard homeowners insurance doesn't cover flooding, ensure coverage by contacting your insurance company or agent to purchase flood insurance. This must be done before there is even a threat of flooding as insurance companies stop issuing policies if there is a threat of flooding.

Here are a few things to consider if flooding does occur:

- 1) Obey Evacuation Orders:
 - a. If told to evacuate, do so immediately. Lock your home when you leave. If you have time, disconnect utilities and appliances.
- 2) Practice Electrical Safety:
 - a. Don't go into a basement or any room, if water covers the electrical outlets or if cords are submerged. If you see sparks or hear buzzing, crackling, snapping or popping noises---get out! Stay out of water that may have electricity in it.
- 3) Avoid Flood Waters:
 - a. Don't walk through flood waters. It only takes 6 inches of moving water to knock you off your feet. If you are trapped in moving water, move to the highest possible point and call 911 if possible. Do NOT drive into flooded roadways or around a barricade, water may be deeper than it appears and can hide hazards such as sharp objects, washed out road surfaces, electrical wires, chemicals, etc. A vehicle caught in swiftly moving water can be swept away in seconds.

Finally, please be aware of constant weather changes and any evacuation information on local radio, news channels, City of Arcadia Website, City of Arcadia Facebook and City of Arcadia Police Department Facebook.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 608-323-3359 or emergency call 911.

Chief D Anderson

Arcadia Police Department

Chief J Halvorsen

Arcadia-Glencoe Fire Department

Mayor R Reichwein

City of Arcadia