



MASON COUNTY

FLOOD RISK OPEN HOUSE: PRESS RELEASE

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[Flood Risk Open House to Highlight Changes to Flood Maps in Mason County, Washington.](#)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) releases preliminary maps for flood areas along Mason County coastlines, rivers, and lakes.

Belfair, Washington – Draft flood map revisions in Mason County and what they mean for property owners will be discussed during a **March 21st, 2017 open house from 6:00PM to 8:00PM at the North Mason High School “Commons” (200 East Campus Drive, Belfair, WA 98528)**. The open house will showcase the County’s Hazard Mitigation Planning Efforts and provide an opportunity for a multi-hazard risk discussion.

FEMA has issued preliminary maps showing revisions to the 100-year floodplain, which has a 1 percent chance of flooding in any year. The revised flood insurance rate maps cover properties along the above listed areas. These maps will help community officials and local residents identify flood risks and, when adopted, will be used for flood insurance, land use and development decisions.

At the event, property owners and residents will have a chance to learn about the flood mapping process and what the changes mean for them. Residents will also have the opportunity to ask questions about how these maps will impact their property and community.

Mason County encourages property owners to examine the preliminary maps, attend the March 21st, 2017 open house, and ask questions about how revisions could affect them. Preliminary maps can be reviewed <http://bit.ly/1IW9t9U> or at Mason County Public Works GIS Department 100 W. Public Works Drive, Shelton, WA 98584.

If you cannot attend the open house, the presentation will be recorded and available at MasonWebTV.com. You can request a custom flood map of your property by contacting your Mason County Public Works / GIS Department 100 W. Public Works Dr. Shelton, WA 98584 JWells@co.mason.wa.us. Additionally, if you have questions regarding your property and how you may be affected by the new maps, you can write your questions to Kell McAboy, Community Development Department, 615 W Alder Street, Shelton, WA 98584 / KMCAboy@co.mason.wa.us . In your message please provide your FULL NAME, FULL PROPERTY ADDRESS, PARCEL NUMBER (if available), CONTACT INFORMATION (mailing address, email address, and phone number), and QUESTION(S).

Flooding is the nation's most common and most expensive natural disaster. According to national statistics, homes inside high-risk flood areas have a 26 percent chance of being damaged by flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage, compared with a 9 percent chance of sustaining fire damage.

More information on flood safety is available at http://www.co.mason.wa.us/forms/dem/all_hazards_guide.pdf . To learn more about federal flood insurance, visit www.floodsmart.gov.