



TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE

121 NW Washington Street | PO Box 870 | South Prairie, WA 98385
Phone: (360) 897-8878 § clerk@townofsp.com

2023 COMPREHENSIVE FLOOD HAZARD MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

What is the 2023 Flood Hazard Management Plan? The purpose of the Pierce County Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan continues to be to create a resilient community by:

- Outlining the County's local and federal obligations;
- Recommending regional policies, programs, and projects that reduce risks to public health and safety;
- Reducing damage to private improvements as well as critical infrastructure such as roads, highways, ferry landings, assisted living facilities, bridges;
- Reducing maintenance costs; and
- Improving habitat conditions while protecting and maintaining the regional economy.

While past plans only addressed riverine flooding, the 2023 plan will address coastal, groundwater, urban, and riverine flooding. It will identify projects, policies, and that will reduce the impact of major flooding on the community to be implemented over a 10-year period.

They Want To Hear From You!

From December 14, 2020 to January 29, 2021, Pierce County will be taking comment on what to study. Read more about the Flood Plan at piercecounitywa.gov/comprehensiveflood. You are also encouraged to complete the survey to help the County better understand what flooding means to you and how you have been impacted by past flood events. The survey can be accessed at piercecounitywa.gov/floodsurvey.

The comments received will help Pierce County's Surface Water Management Division determine what issues should be considered in its technical analysis of potential alternatives, what environmental impacts and potential mitigation measures should be considered and evaluated, and what permits may be required.

Electronic written comments may be submitted by email at: 2023floodplan@piercecounitywa.gov

Written comments may be delivered via US Mail or hand delivered to the following address:

Pierce County Planning and Public Works
Attn: Angela Angove, Project Manager
Tacoma Mall Plaza Office
2702 S. 42nd Street, Suite 109
Tacoma, WA 98409

CODE ENFORCEMENT

The Town will be contracting with a Code Enforcement official in 2021 to help protect the safety and health of citizens including determining the nature of environmental or health hazards, nuisance violations and unsafe conditions. He can also investigate the abandonment of vehicles and other interests that fall under the category of maintaining the quality of the Town. A code enforcement officer is essentially responsible for evaluating private properties and public grounds against local codes, answering citizen questions about the codes, and issuing citations for code violations. They can also issue citations in accordance with the municipal code and other laws and regulations and assist those in violation in gaining compliance. We are pleased to provide this new level of protection and guidance to the citizens.

OUTDOOR WARNING SYSTEM UPGRADE & EXPANSION

Pierce County Department of Emergency Management (PCDEM) expanded the number and reach of the outdoor warning sirens in 2020. PCDEM has 42 sirens in the Puyallup River Valley and the Nisqually River Valley. With the upgrades the sirens have more capabilities to notify people of emergencies. This includes using voice warnings in English and Spanish, flashing lights to reach additional vulnerable populations and verbal instructions based on the emergency. For more information, visit: www.piercecounitywa.gov/5888/Outdoor-Warning-System.



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CENTURYLINK BILLING ISSUES

A few months ago, we brought the issue of Century Link incorrectly collecting 6% utility taxes from some of the Town's customers as well as sending South Prairie sales tax to Sumner. The Town Clerk been working with the corporate tax department trying to get this corrected. Finally, we have contact information for you to get to the right folks at Century Link to resolve the matter for all South Prairie customers affected. Our assigned account representative is Ashley Kay Wardle. You can reach her at (208) 207-2240 or Ashley.Wardle@centurylink.com. She is the point of contact if your bill reflects collection of a utility tax or any taxes said to be collected for any city or town other than South Prairie. She will be able to correct future billings as well as explain what reimbursements you may be owed.

IMPORTANT UTILITY BILLING INFORMATION



****Watch out for scammers pretending to be your utility company. If someone calls you and threatens to shut off your service without an immediate payment, hang up and call the number on your bill. This applies to all of your utility providers. ****

NEED ASSISTANCE: There are numerous resources to assist South Prairie residents in paying utility and other bills and expenses. Pierce County has several resources including the Community Action Program at 253-798-6266 and the Human Services division at 253-798-4500. Washington 2-1-1 is your free connection to vital services including access to food, transportation, health care and much more. Just dial 211 to find help. Most churches also offer assistance.

MAKE SURE YOUR PAYMENT IS PROCESSED CORRECTLY: Please only use **black** or **blue ink** on your checks. It is also important to **include your account number** on your check/money order and **do not staple checks**. To make sure your payment is applied to YOUR account correctly, make sure the account number is clearly and correctly displayed on the check/money order. Please make sure the payment amount in full, including **dollars and cents**, is correct on your check. Submitting a payment, even a few cents shy of the total amount due, can **trigger a late fee**. Please use the Town's correct mailing address of **PO Box 870**. Payments sent to Box F need to be updated to PO Box 870. The post office will discontinue forwarding mail sent to the old PO box at some point and your payments may not be received.

WATER/SEWER/SEPTIC SYSTEM EMERGENCIES

The Town's sewer system has seen an increase in non-flushable items. Only toilet paper and waste from the human body should be flushed down the toilet. Even items that say *flushable*, like hygiene/disinfecting wipes, should **not** be flushed. Other unsafe items include:

- Disposable diapers
- Sanitary napkins or tampons
- Paper towels or bandages
- Dental floss
- Condoms
- Hair
- Cigarette butts
- Coffee grounds
- Kitty litter

Let's all do our part to keep our system the best it can be. **As always, with water, sewer and septic utility emergencies, contact Mayor Tony Caldwell at (360) 947-4734.**

We hope this finds you and your family safe and well!