

Be informed about Earth's most vital yet hazardous substance: **WATER**



Image Source: Kentucky RiskMAP Portal, Stoner Creek

Floodplains – We need them!

Floodplains play an important role in providing necessary functions to the waterways of Bourbon County. If left undisturbed, floodplains provide many benefits to people and places. They naturally control runoff and erosion so flood damage is lessened. Stoner Creek, Houston Creek, Hinkston Creek, and other creeks and streams help filter runoff from farms, residences and other developed land. As a result, these unaltered areas remain healthy for people, plants, livestock and wildlife. Also, floodplains often contain historic and archeological sites that provide an opportunity for education and learning.

Keep Drains Free and Clean

Keeping ditches and streams free of debris can improve the ability of low-lying areas to collect and absorb water. Clean waterways also prevent water from backing up due to blockages. It is illegal to dump materials into any waterway and violators may be fined. If you see someone in the act of dumping or see debris in one of Bourbon County's waterways, please contact the Planning Office at (859) 987-2150.



Ask Before Building

Applications must be obtained before any work can be conducted in a floodplain area. Please contact the Bourbon County Joint Planning Office if you are thinking about building in a floodprone area. If you see questionable activity that is within the floodplain, please call us immediately at (859) 987-2150.

Warning Systems

Many times, flooding can be predicted, giving enough warning time to prepare and evacuate. However, in the event of a flash flood due to a large rain event, you may be the first to notice. If this is the case, notify the Police Department at (859) 987-2100.



Sign up for
"Smart 911"
emergency alerts:
www.paris.ky.gov

Flood Safety Tips

▲ TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!

More people drown in cars than any place else. Do not drive around barriers and through a flooded area.



▲ DON'T WALK THROUGH FLOWING WATER.

Six inches of water can knock you off your feet. Keep children away from flood water, ditches, culverts and storm drains.

▲ STAY AWAY FROM POWER LINES AND WIRES

If your house is about to be flooded, turn off the power at the service box. Electrical current can travel through water.

▲ BE ALERT TO GAS LEAKS.

Turn off the gas to your house before it floods. If you smell gas, report it to your gas company. Do not use candles, lanterns or open flames if you smell gas or are unsure if your gas is shut off.

▲ CLEAN EVERYTHING THAT HAS BEEN WET.

Flood water will be contaminated with sewage and other chemicals and mold will develop quickly. Replace items such as carpeting, drywall, insulation, and furniture if wet during a flood.

▲ DON'T USE GAS ENGINES, SUCH AS GENERATORS, OR FIRES INDOORS DURING OUTAGES.

Carbon monoxide exhaust can pose serious health hazards.

For more information, visit:

www.ready.gov
www.watermaps.ky.gov
<http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert>

Or contact us!

Bourbon County Joint Planning Office
(859) 987-2150
www.bourboncountypanning.com