



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I'd like to invite you to a flood preparedness open house from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 14 at Stewart Elementary School, 426 4th Ave. NE in Puyallup.

This free event will feature informational booths and short presentations about flood preparedness. You can drop in any time between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., and children's activities will be available.

Learn how to plan and prepare for flooding, because being ready for flooding is incredibly important in order to protect lives, businesses, property and animals. Major roads, including freeways, can be closed because of flooding, so even if you don't live near one of the major rivers or a stream, flooding can impact you.

The county will share information about its flood protection program that includes maintaining about 67 miles of flood protection structures along the county's major rivers - which include the Puyallup River, the Carbon River, the White River, and the Nisqually River. The county, on average, spends \$3 million each year on maintenance of these flood protection systems.

You can also hear about the county's floodplain property acquisition program. This program uses state and federal grant dollars to purchase properties in flood prone areas from willing sellers. Buying these properties moves people out of harm's way and reduces costs from damaging floods. Plus, find out about the flood risk to your property and have a flood map printed or emailed to you for their records.

Learn about how Pierce County road crews respond during winter weather, including snow and ice, windstorms, and rainstorms. Also, gather information and ideas for creating an emergency kit and disaster plan for your family (tips on creating a kit for families and vehicles is available at www.piercecountywa.org/winterwise).

To learn more about the flood preparedness open house, please visit www.piercecountywa.org/floodopenhouse.

Sincerely,

Pierce County Council District 2
County-City Building
930 Tacoma Ave. S.
Tacoma, WA 98402

CONTACT:
Joyce McDonald
(253) 798-6694
joyce.mcdonald@co.pierce.wa.us

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