

INTRODUCTION

is dedicated to minimizing the property that is associated with events. Education and prevention are tools that help communities prepare for these natural disasters and the damage related to climate change and severe and extreme weather. The City of Walker believes that its entire community is at risk, not just those structures located in Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA). Information has been provided to help property owners located within the SFHA, and also all property owners with-

participates in the Community Rating System (CRS) and has a class 7 rating that citizens a 15% discount on



FLOOD HAZARD?

From June 1st to November 30th and during flooding. Be prepared have an evacuation plan. Know how to get to higher ground. Your area may occur during any time. A large portion of our area is in a Special Flood Hazard Area. **Important to Know your location** in our city is caused by water from West Coyell Creek, flooding because of excessive rainfall. Major floods have occurred in 1967, 1977, 1979, 2001, 2005, and 2016.. Contact the Planning Management Office for

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS REQUIREMENTS

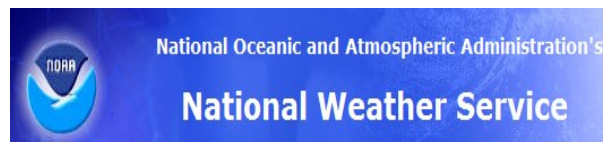
What is a substantial improvement? The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requires that any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the structure before the start of the construction of the improvement, must conform or meet the same construction requirements as a new building and be constructed above the minimum Base Flood Elevation (BFE) listed on the City of Walker's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).

What is substantial damage? Substantial damage means damage of any origin sustained by a building or structure when the cost of restoring the building to its pre-damaged condition would equal or exceed 50% of the market value of the building before the damage occurred. Substantial damage is determined regardless of the actual repair work performed.

The City of Walker requires by ordinance that any substantial improvement must have a building permit. Permit information can be obtained at the City of Walker Permit Department or by calling (225) 665-8893.

FLASH FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

If flash flooding is imminent, the City of Walker residents are notified through local radio and cable television networks. Walker residents can also receive updated weather information from the National Weather Service Offices in Louisiana.



HOW CAN I PROTECT MY PROPERTY?

While Purchasing Flood Insurance helps you recover from a flood event, there are steps you can take to help lessen the damage prior to flooding:

Contact your local Building Official: The City of Walker Building Official will be familiar with the particular flooding conditions your area encounters and ways you can protect your property against them. If requested the city will visit your property to review its flood problems and explain ways to prevent flood damage such as retrofitting techniques, help you with local drainage problems and give guidance on financial assistance programs. (225-665-8893)

Use Flood resistant materials wherever possible.

Elevate: Place essential components above the flood level.

Retrofitting measures include:

1. Elevating the building so that flood waters do not enter or reach any damageable portion of it.
2. Constructing appropriate barriers out of fill or concrete between the building and flood waters.
3. "Dry flood proofing" to make the building's walls and floors watertight so water does not enter.
4. "Wet flood proofing" to modify the structure and relocate the contents so that when flood waters enter the building there is little or no damage.

A free booklet, "Flood Proofing Techniques, Programs and Reference (1991, 23pp)," is available from:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
National Flood Proofing Committee
ATTN: CECW PF
20 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

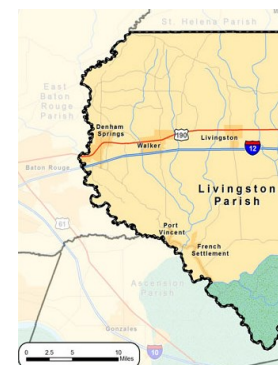
HOW CAN I BUILD RESPONSIBLY?

- **Contact your Local Building Department** before you Build or Alter your property.
- **Consult Flood Maps and other FEMA approved publications:** Determine the materials, flood level, and construction requirements you may face.
- **Follow All Required Building Codes and Zoning regulations:** Your home will be safer.
- **Illegal building or filling should be reported to your local Permit Office.**

FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

All development in the City of Walker requires a permit. Contact the City of Walker Permit Department at (225) 665-8893 for more information. To build, fill, place a manufactured building, or develop within City limits. The City of Walker flood control ordinance, and the City of Walker Building Codes have special provisions for the construction and other development in floodplains. Without these provisions, development through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) would not be available. Property owners in the City of Walker are required to obtain a permit for development in the floodplain without a permit. Any activity may be reported to the City of Walker Permit Department.

Elevation Certificates for new construction are also available at the Permit Department.



FLOOD INFORMATION

City of Walker has adopted the National Flood Insurance Program effective date of April 3, 2012.

Insurance Agents, Lenders, and residents of Walker may request information, flood maps, mandatory requirements, flood zone determination, LOMAs, flood depths, historical flood issues, floodways and water levels by visiting the Walker Municipal Building at 13600 Aydel Lane, Walker, LA.

DO I NEED FLOOD INSURANCE?

Amount of water can cause significant damage. Damage is **Not** covered by insurance. Everyone should have flood insurance even if you do not live in a flood zone it will help you and make recovery after a flood. Flood insurance is available in the City of Walker, even renters can get it. To help our citizens with flood insurance the City of Walker has a NFIP Community Rating System and is a class 7 rating which can help you get a discount on flood insurance. To get flood insurance contact any agent. Don't wait for the next flood waiting period for coverage. Keep in mind to be eligible for NFIP you must have NFIP in place to get flood insurance.

For information about flood insurance contact:

www.walkerla.gov/contact
250-638-6620

For flood insurance agent.
City of Walker CRS Coordinator
250-665-8893

WHAT DO I DO TO PROTECT MYSELF IN A FLOODPLAIN EMERGENCY?

Anything you dump into ditches or storm drains contributes to flooding.

Water Protection/Erosion Control: Keeping building foundations out of the storm drains helps overall drainage in our area.
Dumping activities or any other activities in these restricted areas: The City of Walker's Department of Public Works prohibits illegal activity. It can be a fine of \$665-2467.
Feeding or engaging in hunting or fishing are just a few of the benefits of maintaining relative Floodplains.



DRAINAGE SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

It is illegal in the City of Walker to dump any type of debris into a canal, stream, river, drainage ditches, or any other body of water within the City. This debris can become entangled in culverts, canals, or drainage ditches and impede drainage, causing the flow of water to back up. Citizens should also keep storm drains on their property free of debris, including leaves and grass clippings that would impede the flow of water. Debris dumping should be reported to the City of Walker by calling the Department of Public Works at (225) 665-2467.

ONLINE RESOURCES

www.floodsmart.gov

www.weather.gov/forecast

www.wafb.com/story/1644744/river-flood-center

www.maps.lsuagcenter.com/flood_maps/

www.lsuagcenter.com/topic/family_home/hazards_and_threats

www.laseagrant.org/sglegal/publications/other/homeowners-handbook/

www.floodhelp.uno.edu/portal.aspx

www.mylpl.info/emergency-preparedness

www.getagameplan.org

HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF IN A FLOOD?

When flood warnings are issued, you should take all necessary steps to protect you and your family.

- **Be prepared to evacuate.**
- **Have an Evacuation Plan:** know where you will go and how to get there before the emergency arises.
- **Have all important documents readily available to take with you in the case of an evacuation.**
- **Do not walk through flood waters:** A few inches of moving water can knock you off your feet.
- **Do not drive through a flooded area:** Do not drive around barriers, the road or bridge may be washed out.
- **Stay away from power lines and electrical wires:** Water and Electricity are a shocking combination. Electrocuting is the second leading cause of death during a flood. Report downed power lines to the power company or city emergency management office. Turn off all electrical circuits and gas lines that may come in contact with flood water.
- **Look out for animals, especially snakes.** Small animals are running from flood waters just like you.
- **Carbon monoxide exhaust kills:** Use a generator or other gasoline-powered machine outdoors. Fumes from charcoal are especially deadly; cook with charcoal outdoors only.
- **Be alert for gas leaks:** Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Don't smoke or use candles, lanterns, or open flames.

For 24/7 service, visit the City of Walker website at:

<http://www.walker.la.us/>

Floodplain Management

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