

Important Flood Protection Information

Floods happen. Sometimes they happen because we get an unusually intense, heavy rain. Lasting only a short time, the rain intensity is enough to overwhelm the storm water management facilities. These types of floods are known as “flash” floods. Other times, floods occur when it rains gently over a long time. In these cases, the stormwater management facilities are not likely to be overwhelmed, but the water may overtop the banks of our rivers. Each type of flood has happened in Lincolnshire and will happen again. There are steps that you can take to prepare your family and property for the next flood.

Where will it Flood?

Floods can occur anywhere. You do not have to be located along a river to experience a flood. Your property could experience floods from heavy rains or sump pump failure.

There are some areas that are more prone to flood than others. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has studied the areas along our rivers and designated these areas as “Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)”, also known as the “floodplain” or the “100-year floodplain.” The SFHA is defined as the area which is subject to a one percent (1%) chance of flooding in any given year. Structures in these areas have a 26 percent chance of suffering flood damage from a 100-year event during the term of a 30-year mortgage.

Floodplains are not all bad. They provide a wonderful habitat for many species of wildlife and plants. The floodplain also serves as a natural buffer which can absorb water during periods of heavy rain. For example, the golf course at Marriott’s Lincolnshire Resort is a fine playground in dry weather, but when the banks of the Des Plaines River overflow, the golf course serves as a holding area for floodwaters.

There are three SFHAs in Lincolnshire as shown on the shaded areas of the enclosed map: The Des Plaines River, Indian Creek and the West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River. To see the map in greater detail, visit Lincolnshire’s web site www.lincolnshireil.gov and click on the link “Flood Protection Information.” There you will see a link to the Village’s flood map.

The SFHA consists of two components: the floodway and the flood fringe. The floodway is, in general, the deeper, faster moving water during a flood event. The flood fringe is adjacent to the floodway and contains the shallow, slower moving water. In Northeastern Illinois, additional regulations apply to structures located in the floodway.

Flood Safety-It’s Up to YOU



There may be little warning of a flood and help may not be available. Preparation is very important in any emergency situation. Here are some steps to prepare:

- ◇ **Obtain Flood Insurance.** There is a 30-day waiting period from the time you purchase insurance until the time it is effective. Do not wait until it starts raining to purchase this important protection.
- ◇ **Prepare and exercise a family emergency preparedness plan.** Know where your family will meet in the event of an evacuation. Sample plans are available at www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pdfs/Family_Plan.pdf
- ◇ **Install a back-up battery for your sump pump.** There is a chance that a power outage may occur during a flood. Your battery will help keep the sump pump running and the house dry.
- ◇ **Monitor the local conditions.** During a flood event, conditions can change rapidly. Media reports will be supplemented by direct communication from the Village. Visit <http://il.water.usgs.gov/ifhp/lake> to obtain real-time data for the Des Plaines River.

◇ **Do not walk through flowing water.** Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths. Currents can be deceptive. If you walk in standing water be sure to use a pole or stick ensuring that firm ground is ahead.



◇ **Turn Around. Don't Drown.** Do not drive through a flooded area or past road barriers. Barriers are there for your protection.

◇ **Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.** The number two flood killer after drowning is electrocution. Electrical current travels through water. If you see downed power lines report them immediately to the Village Police Department by dialing 911.

◇ **Have your electricity turned off by Commonwealth Edison.** If you have been flooded you should be aware that some appliances, such as televisions, hold electrical charges even after they have been unplugged. Do not use appliances or motors that have been wet unless they have been cleaned and checked by a professional. Commonwealth Edison's phone number is 1-800-Edison 1 (1-800-334-7661).



◇ **Keep generators out of your house and away from windows.** Many deaths during floods are not related to the water, but due to the gases emitted from generators. If you use a generator, make sure that you follow the manufacturer's instructions.

◇ **Be alert for gas leaks.** Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Do not smoke or use candles, lanterns or open flames unless you know the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated. (Peoples Energy-North Shore Gas' emergency phone number is 1-866-556-6005.)



◇ **Look out for animals.** Small animals or reptiles that have been flooded out of their homes may seek shelter in yours.

◇ **Move valuable contents to a higher elevation.**

Representatives from the Village of Lincolnshire Public Works Department can help you answer questions about these steps.

Flood Insurance



A flood insurance policy is available for all properties within the Village through the National Flood Insurance Program. If you do not have flood insurance, talk to your insurance agent. Most homeowners' insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. Do not wait for a flood to purchase insurance as there is a mandatory 30-day waiting period before the insurance goes into effect.

You are entitled to a **25%** discount on your flood insurance if your home is located in the SFHA because the Village participates in the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System Program. If your home is not located in the floodplain, you will still qualify for lower priced flood insurance.

Check your policy to be sure that you have adequate coverage. There are two components to flood insurance: one for the building's structure and the other for its contents. There have been a few floods in Lincolnshire which have caused significant damage to a building's structure as well as its contents. For more information on flood insurance, visit www.floodsmart.gov

What You Can Do to Minimize the Impact of Flooding on YOUR Property

Here are steps that YOU can take to help protect your own property:

◇ Do not dump material in ditches, rivers or storm sewers. Grass clippings and logs can accumulate over time and block drainage paths. Chemicals may be flammable, explosive, or toxic and may injure human, animal or plant life. Dumping is a violation of Village Code and violators are subject up to a \$500 fine until the violation is corrected. If you see dumping or debris in ditches, streams, rivers or detention basins contact the Public Works Department at 847-913-2380.

◇ Permits may be required for alterations to homes or property. The permitting process provides protection for you and your neighbor! If you need assistance in obtaining a permit or if you see building or earth filling without a Village permit sign posted, contact the Community and Economic Development Department at 847-913-2317.

- ◇ Improve your property to reduce flood impacts. Install and maintain gutters or sump pumps; grade the land to slope away from the home; and add rain gardens. Some problems can only be solved by taking more drastic measures: flood-proofing or water proofing your home, raising the house above flood levels, and adding plumbing fixtures to protect against a sewer back up. Ideas can be generated by talking with Village staff or reading literature provided at the Village Hall or the Vernon Area Public Library

Construction in the Floodplain or Floodway

Structures located in the floodplain or floodway are subject to additional regulations designed to protect not only your structure but also that of your neighbor. If you are contemplating a modification to your existing structure, contact the Village before starting your design so that you understand the regulations before you get too far along in the process. Any modification to a structure in the floodplain may require a permit.

If your structure is located in the SFHA, you may be able to construct an addition. In general, additions may be added if the cost of the addition does not exceed fifty-percent of the value of the structure itself. This regulation is known as the substantial improvement rule. It is designed to limit the exposure of damage to structures in the SFHA. If the cost of the proposed addition would exceed the fifty-percent threshold, then the entire structure must be brought into compliance with the floodplain regulations.

For structures located in the floodway, only additions which do not increase the footprint of the structure and comply with the substantial improvement rule are permissible. Second story additions may be permitted.

Village Flood Services

The Village can assist you in determining location of your home relative to the flood hazard area. A map (included in this newsletter) showing this information may be found online at http://www.lincolnshireil.gov/pdf/departments/pw_floodmap.pdf.

A Village Staff member can visit your property to review a flood problem and explain possible ways to stop flooding or prevent flood damage. If your property has experienced flood, drainage or sewer backup problems, call the Village at 847-883-8600 to obtain assistance in resolving the problems. These services are free of charge.

In the event of a flood the Village will take the following actions:

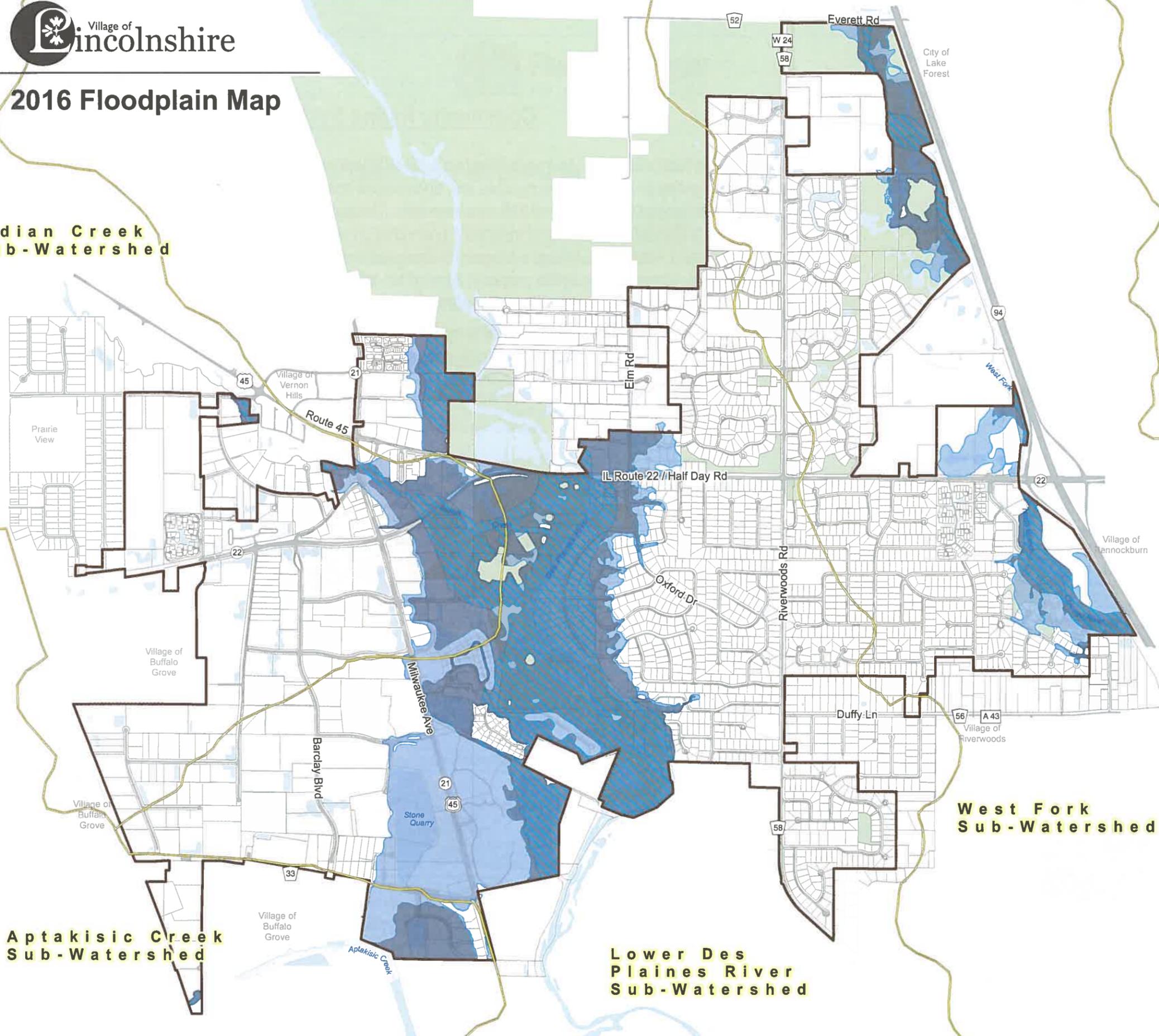
- ◇ The Village Emergency Preparedness Plan will be implemented.
- ◇ You will be notified of the pre-flood state of alert:
 - information will be broadcast on the Village's website, Twitter, and Facebook sites.
 - if you are in a hazard area you will be notified in person or by phone via the **Blackboard Connect** emergency notification system. Go to the Village's website to sign-up for this program. You can add multiple email addresses, telephone numbers, and even sign up to receive text messages when you enter your information.
- ◇ The Village will begin to place sandbags, if necessary, to protect public infrastructure.



You, the property owner, are responsible for protective measures for your individual home and property, including sandbagging, pumping, turning electricity off, etc. Action taken by Village staff, such as sandbagging, is intended to protect public property and benefit the entire area. It may appear that the Village is sandbagging individual homes, but please be assured that sandbagging efforts are part of a strategic plan designed to provide protection to the entire neighborhood.

2016 Floodplain Map

**Indian Creek
Sub-Watershed**



**Aptakistic Creek
Sub-Watershed**

**Lower Des
Plaines River
Sub-Watershed**

**West Fork
Sub-Watershed**

Legend

- Floodway
- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Sub-Watershed Boundary
- Pond or River
- Park or Preserve
- Parcel Boundary
- Road
- Municipal Boundary

Contact Information

Department of Public Works
 One Olde Half Day Rd
 Lincolnshire, IL 60069
 (847) 883-8600
www.lincolnshireil.gov

1 inch equals 1,700 feet

Data source: Parcel boundary provided by Lake County GIS. Floodway and floodplain data adapted from FEMA effective 9/18/2013. All other data from the Village of Lincolnshire GIS.

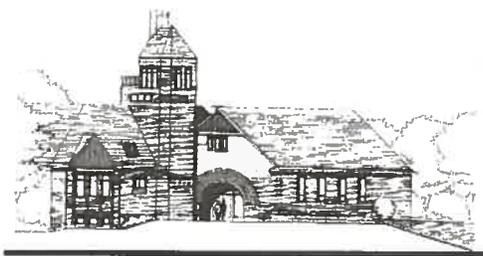
Village corporate limits as of January 1, 2016. Map printed 1/25/2016.

A PDF version of this map is available on the Village of Lincolnshire's website. Click on the link for "Flood Protection Information" and then select the link for the "Floodplain Map" in the menu on the right side of the page.

Community Rating System (CRS)

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Through Lincolnshire's efforts, residents receive a 25% discount on their flood insurance premiums on structures located in the Special Flood Hazard Area. The Village's program is designed to meet the three CRS program goals: Reduce flood damage to insurable property; Strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP, and Encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

For more information on the CRS program, visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency's web page devoted to CRS at <http://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-rating-system>



Village of
Lincolnshire

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