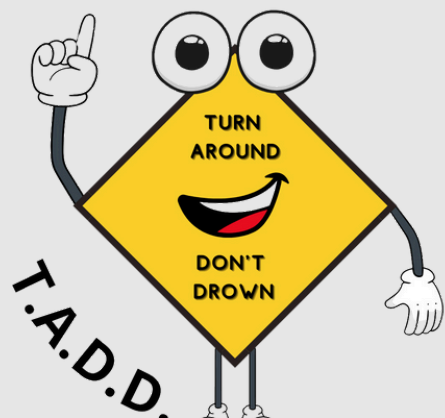


NEWSLETTER

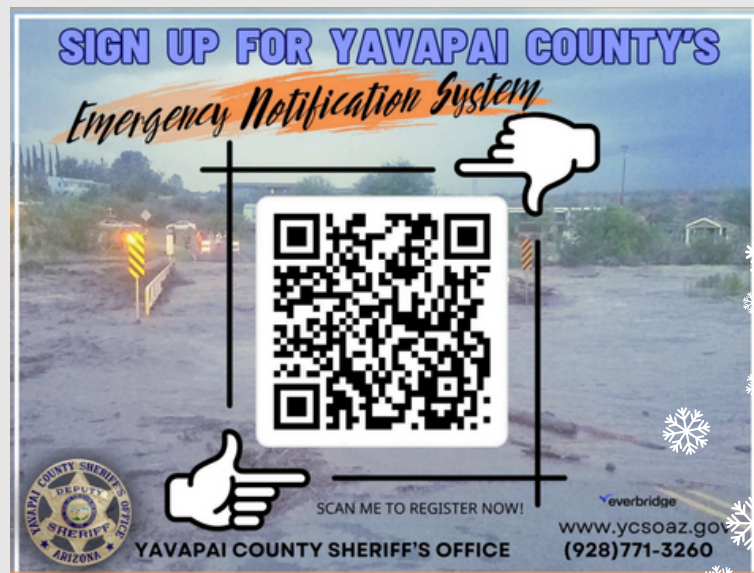
WINTER FLOODING AND FLOODED ROADS

Flooding can occur in any season, including winter. Sometimes, floating debris or ice can gather at natural or man-made barriers, limiting water flow. When ice jams or debris dams block the flow, it can lead to upstream flooding. Rapid snowmelt can also cause flooding, particularly on roads. Alarming, nearly half of all flash flood fatalities involve vehicles. When driving, be vigilant for flooding in highway dips, bridges, and low-lying areas. Just two feet of water can sweep away most vehicles. Always avoid driving through flooded roads, and remember: "Turn Around, Don't Drown."



LA NIÑA CONDITIONS FOR NOV 2024- JAN 2025

The National Weather Service has extended its La Niña watch, predicting conditions through Nov- Jan 2025. La Niña usually leads to warm, dry winters in the Southwest and is part of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) cycle. Despite being in a La Niña period, Yavapai County may still experience isolated storms or flash flooding events. For emergency notifications sign up below.





BE PREPARED FOR A WINTER STORM



FEMA
FEMA V-1014/June 2018

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion.

Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice, and high winds.



Greater risk



Can last a few hours or several days



Can knock out heat, power, and communication services

IF YOU ARE UNDER A WINTER STORM WARNING, FIND SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

Stay off roads.





Use generators outside only.

Stay indoors and dress warmly.





Pay attention to emergency information and alerts.

Prepare for power outages.





Look for signs of hypothermia and frostbite.

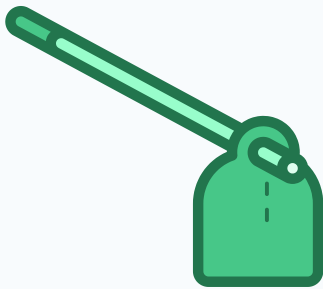
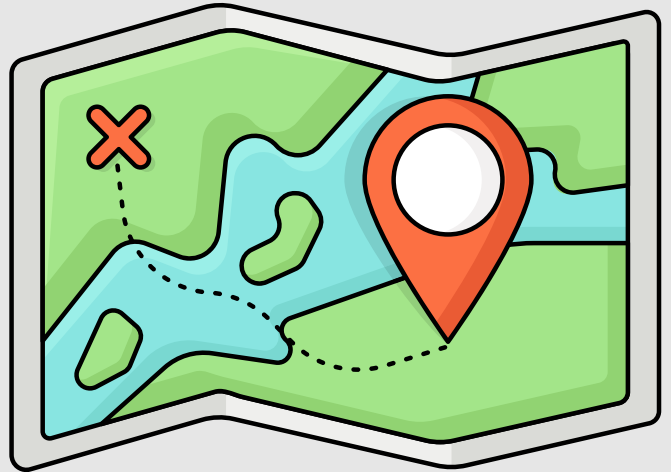


Check on neighbors.

KNOW YOUR RISK

Living near a wash, river or stream can put you or your home at risk. To learn your risk is easy! Just email your address or parcel number to Yavapai County Flood Control at flood.status@yavapaiaz.gov or visit FEMA's mapping center at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>.

Know where the low water crossings are in your area, and avoid them during and after heavy rains. Plan ahead and find a route home if that road is inaccessible.

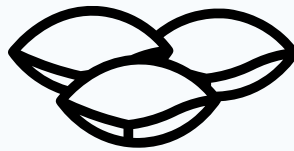


CLEAN OUT DRIVEWAY CULVERTS

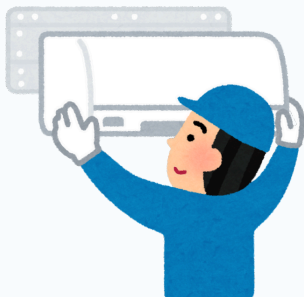
***Protect your home
from winter water
damage***



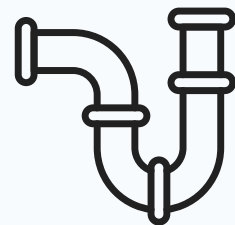
WATERPROOF YOUR BASEMENT



STOCK UP ON SANDBAGS



ELEVATE UTILITIES FROM DRAINAGE



PROTECT YOUR PIPES



CLEAN OUT GUTTERS

2024 FEATURED PRECIPITATION GAUGE

HELL CANYON @ SR89

ALERT2 Gauge ID 54258

Gauge Type: Precipitation and Water Level

Primary Watershed: Verde River

Sub- Watershed: Hell Canyon

Location: 10 miles south of Ash Fork

Installed: 9/17/2024



ALERT is an acronym for “Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time” and refers to a National Weather Service format developed in the 1970s for transmission of hydrometeorological data from remote sensors via radio in real-time. The Yavapai County Flood Control District ALERT System consists of precipitation gauges, stream gauges and other weather-related sensors that have been strategically placed in watersheds impacting communities in Yavapai County.



This photo shows the channel downstream and the conduit and sensor for measuring stage (water level)

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

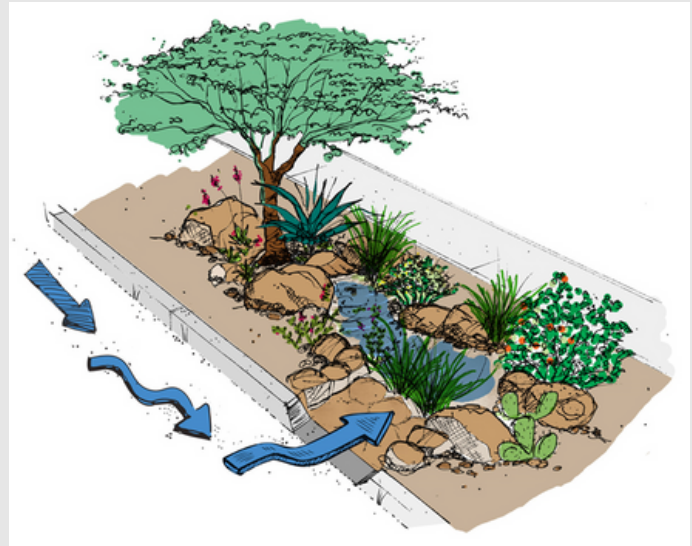
We've been awarded an ADEQ Water Quality Grant!

In July, YCFCD applied for a 604(b) Water Quality grant to pursue the Stormwater Focus Areas identified by Northern Arizona Council of Governments in 2023. With these grant funds we will conduct a feasibility study to identify preferred green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) sites and develop multi-purpose flood control and GSI projects. The study will focus on identifying parcels based on ownership, recharge potential, and water quality issues, followed by conceptual designs for three sites and an implementation plan for one site.

Green stormwater infrastructure uses vegetation, soils, and natural processes to mitigate urban water quality issues and promote healthier streams and urban areas. By addressing runoff from urbanized areas, we can improve water quality downstream in the Verde River and its major tributaries. We look forward to sharing updates and progress as this project develops!

Introducing the Northern Arizona MS4 Collaborative

This bimonthly collaborative effort will bring together expertise and resources from MS4 operators across the region to address common stormwater challenges and promote best practices. By working together, we can achieve greater efficiencies, innovate solutions, and improve water quality for all Northern Arizona communities.



Above: Conceptual drawing of a Curb cut with rock-lined basin in a right of way by Watershed Management Group.

Below: A newly completed curb cut with rock-lined basin in action in a City of Tucson right of way.



FLOOD INSURANCE

How to purchase?

To purchase flood insurance, call your insurance company or insurance agent, the same person who sells your home or auto insurance. If you need help finding a provider go to [FloodSmart.gov/flood-insurance-provider](https://www.floodsmart.gov/flood-insurance-provider) or call the NFIP at 877-336-2627.

New payment installments:

FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is providing a new option for NFIP policyholders to pay their annual flood insurance premiums. Traditionally, these premiums were paid solely on an annual basis, but FEMA is in the process of allowing NFIP policyholders the choice to pay their annual flood insurance premiums via monthly installments.

Flood Insurance quote:

In 10 minutes or less get a quote. Renters and homeowners can apply. Visit <https://www.floodsmart.gov/policy-quote/>

Don't wait get flood insurance today!



YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIVE NEAR WATER TO BE AT RISK OF #FLOODING—ANYWHERE IT RAINS IT CAN FLOOD. BEFORE THE RIVER SHOWS UP UNEXPECTEDLY AT YOUR DOOR, DO YOUR BEST TO PREPARE BY STORING IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS, ELEVATING UTILITIES AND TOSSING OUT DEBRIS FROM GUTTERS.



Flood Control Services Performed

The District is available for assistance or technical advice on the following topics:

- National Flood Insurance Program
- District ALERT System
- Flood Insurance Rate Maps
- Flood Status Information on a Parcel of Land
- Flood Protection & Safety
- Local Flood Hazard
- Development & Permitting within the 100 year floodplain
- Construction in or adjacent to a significant watercourse
- Storm Water Quality and Pollution Control
- Permitting inquiries.

Build responsibly, get a permit! Visit www.yavapaiaz.gov



We are here to assist you!

Prescott: [\(928\) 771-3197](tel:9287713197)

Cottonwood: [\(928\) 649-6222](tel:9286496222)

Email: web.flood.control@yavapaiaz.gov

Flood Status: flood.status@yavapaiaz.gov

FLOOD CONTROL NEWSLETTER



EL NIÑO

National Weather Service has predicted there is a greater than 90% chance of El Niño persisting into the northern hemisphere winter of 2023. The most recent data indicates El Niño is likely to form during the May-July season. There is a 5-10% chance El Niño will fail to materialize.

PFAS EXPLAINED AKA FOREVER CHEMICALS

The term "Forever Chemicals" keeps appearing but what does it really mean? Lets start with PFAS - This acronym stands for Polyfluoroalkyl Substances. Try saying that correctly the first time! PFAS are long lasting chemicals, and the components of these chemicals break down extremely slow over a vast period of time. PFAS have been found in water, air, fish, soil, and the blood of humans and animals all over the globe. PFAS are man made chemicals that became popular in the 1940's. These chemicals have been utilized and manufactured world wide, and can be found in textiles, food packaging, firefighting foam, and several other products.

PFAS EXPLAINED AKA FOREVER CHEMICALS CONTINUED...

In March of 2023 the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) proposed a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation to help establish legally enforceable contaminant levels for six PFAS in drinking water. So what about our local drinking water? In 2022 Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) found 57 public water systems with some levels of PFAS in them, and yes some of them were in Yavapai County. Water systems that tested over the limit for PFAS have been properly shut down or treated with the help of ADEQ to lower the PFAS levels.

We are still learning about PFAS and how harmful the effects are to humans, animals, and the environment. Research is ongoing on how to remove PFAS from drinking water, and how to manage and dispose of PFAS.



FLOOD INSURANCE

A great way to protect your home, and bank account, is to have flood insurance. Contrary to popular belief, homeowners insurance does not cover the cost of flooding and flood damages. Flood insurance helps homeowners, business owners, and renters with the cost of repair or replacements after a flood. So do you really need flood insurance? Flood insurance is required by law for homes and businesses in a high-risk flood areas with government backed mortgages. While flood insurance is not federally required for properties outside of high-risk flood areas, some lenders may still require it.

FLOOD INSURANCE CONTINUED

Minimizing your potential losses from flooding is easy! Knowing if you live in a high-risk flooding area is a good first step! You can check if you live in a floodplain by going to our website at <https://yavapaiaz.gov/ycflood/> and clicking on the box that says "Is your property in a floodplain?" From there, you type in your address into the search box and get more information. Even if you are in a low-risk area for flooding, flooding can still occur. The next best step is to contact your insurance agent and discuss the right amount of coverage you would need for flood insurance! Flood insurance policies typically have a 30 day waiting period before going into effect.



FLOOD EMERGENCY CAR KIT

With monsoon season approaching people often ask us what they should carry in their vehicles in case of a flooding emergency. While we hope nobody ever gets stuck in their vehicle during a flooding emergency we see it happen all too often. We love to tell people "Turn Around, Don't Drown" as it only takes 12 inches of swift moving water to carry a vehicle away. With that being said, we recommend having a seat belt cutter, window smashing tool, whistle, flashlight with batteries, and a flotation device like a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket in the car. Having these tools is great, but knowing how to use them properly in an emergency is essential. The best thing you can do to avoid being trapped in your car during a flooding emergency is to avoid driving through flooded roads and waterways.

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT FLOODING

Each year before monsoon season starts, sit down with your children and go over your flooding safety plan together.

If you have a teenager in your life who has their permit or drivers license, sit down with them and have a candid conversation about the dangers and risks of driving through flooded roadways.

If you do get caught driving in a flash flood or through a flooded roadway try to stay calm. Here are the steps you should take

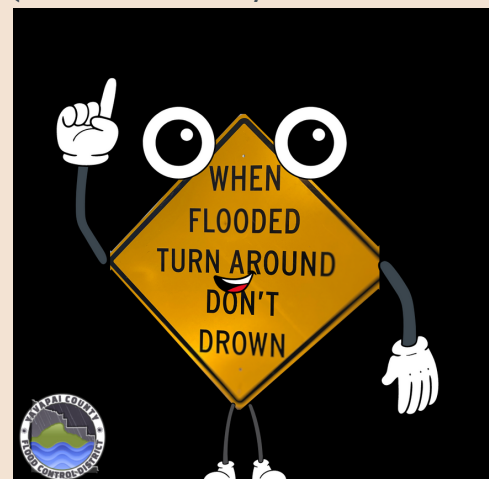
1. Unbuckle your seatbelt, roll down your window, and climb onto the roof.
2. If your window stops working, grab something to break the car window with (like a window smasher previously mentioned).
3. Call 9-1-1 for help and stay put for as long as safely possible. It is easier for rescue teams to spot a person on top of a car than swimming through rapidly moving water.

Turn Around, Don't Drown

It only takes **six inches** of swift moving water to knock a person off their feet, and only **twelve inches** of swift moving water can float a vehicle.

Do not drive into flooded roadways or around a barricade. The water may be deeper than it appears and can hide hazards such as sharp objects, large rocks or fallen trees, washed out road surfaces, electrical wires, chemicals, ect.

This is our new mascot, T.A.D.D.
(Turn Around, Don't Drown)



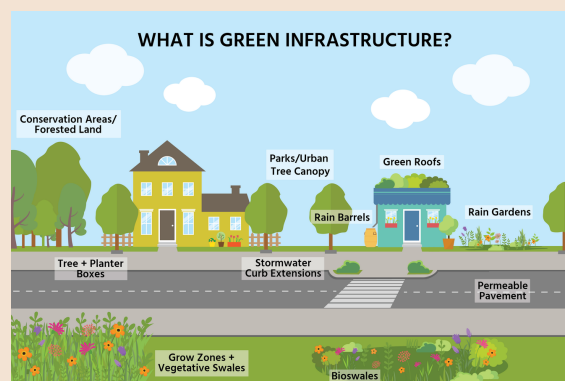
GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Green infrastructure is an approach to water management that protects, restores, or mimics the natural water cycle. It utilizes plants or soil systems, permeable pavement, or other permeable surfaces to filter and absorb stormwater where it falls, helping reduce the flow of stormwater to sewer systems or to surface waters.

In the past communities have used infrastructure systems comprised of roadside gutters, pipes, and channels to move stormwater away, but most infrastructure is aging and its capacity to manage large volumes of stormwater is decreasing. To meet this new challenge, communities are installing green infrastructure systems to bolster their capacity to manage stormwater. Green infrastructure can help communities provide cleaner air, water, and habitats as well as flood protection.

Runoff from stormwater is a major cause of surface water pollution. It carries trash, bacteria, and other pollutants through storm sewers and into local waterways. It is estimated that 10 trillion gallons of untreated stormwater runoff enters U.S. waterways from city sewer systems each year polluting the environment and drinking water supplies.

Green infrastructure comes in many different ways from downspout disconnection, rainwater harvesting, rain gardens, permeable pavements, urban tree canopy and much more. You can learn more about green infrastructure by visiting the EPA website at [epa.gov](https://www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure).



#1 GAUGE

Mingus Mountain

Alert 2 Gauge ID: 54395

Gauge Type: Precipitation and Weather Station

Major Watershed: Verde River

Minor Watershed: Oak Wash/Mescal Gulch

Black Canyon

Location: On Mingus Mountain

Installed :08/22/1997



Please visit the County website for more information:

- Applications, Forms and Instructions
 - Building Codes
 - Community Plans
 - Drainage Design Manual
 - Fees/Impact Fees
 - Flood Hazard Status Reports
 - Flood Protection Information
 - General Plan
 - Ordinances
 - Regulations
 - Stormwater Management Program
 - Related Links & More
- www.yavapaiaz.gov

COUNTY TOLL FREE
TELEPHONE NUMBERS
ASH FORK, BAGDAD, SELIGMAN,
YARNELL
800.771.2797

BLACK CANYON CITY AND PHOENIX
AREA 602.495.8800



COUNTY SWITCHBOARD NUMBERS
Prescott 928.771.3100
Verde Valley 928.639.8100

Concerned about flooding on your property?

The Yavapai County Flood Control District currently has several Certified Floodplain Managers (CFM) on staff. CFM's are experienced in the floodplain management field and they are ready to assist you. Give us a call or stop by our office and we can answer questions, provide building advice, and perform field inspections to investigate flooding, flooding problems, or potential flooding areas.

Services Performed

The District is available for assistance or technical advice on the following topics:

- National Flood Insurance Program
- District ALERT System
- Flood Insurance Rate Maps
- Flood Status Information on a parcel of land
- Flood Protection & Safety
- Local Flood Hazard
- Development & Permitting within the 100 year floodplain
- Construction in or adjacent to a significant watercourse
- Storm Water Quality and Pollution Control

Flood protection information and links to other agencies are available on the County website.

Visit <http://YavapaiAZ.gov/YCFlood>
for archived issues of this newsletter.

LOCATIONS:

1120 Commerce Dr. Phone: 928.771.3197
Prescott, AZ 86305

Web.Flood.Control@yavapaiaz.gov

10 S. Sixth St. Phone: 928.639.8151
Cottonwood, AZ 86326

<http://YavapaiAZ.gov/YCFlood>

Follow us on social media!



@yavapaiflood on instagram



@YavapaiAZ_Flood



Yavapai County Flood
Control District