



City of Columbia Incident Response Brief

Monday, October 12, 2015

The following is a status update for the City of Columbia's incident response to the October floods. Timeframes are noted below for each section.

Maps

Boil Water Advisory - [Download map 10/11/15](#)

Water Distribution Locations - [Download map 10/10/15](#)

Water Distribution Sites

The water distribution sites and hours of operations are listed below:

<u>LOCATIONS: WATER DISTRIBUTION SITES</u>	<u>HOURS OF OPERATION</u>
Dutch Square (former Belk parking lot), 421 Bush River Road	8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Midlands Shopping Center, 2638 Two Notch Road	8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Former Sam's Club parking lot, 1401 Sunset Drive	8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Wal-Mart, 5424 Forest Drive	8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
3700 Landmark Drive	8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Lower Richland High School, 2615 Lower Richland Blvd.	8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Eastover Park, 1301 Main Street, Eastover, SC	8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Gadsden Community Center, 1660 South Goodwin Cir. Gadsden, SC	8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Water Buffalos (Water Filling Stations)

Residents will need to bring their own clean containers to the water filling stations between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. until the boil water advisory is lifted.

<u>LOCATIONS: WATER FILLING STATIONS</u>	<u>HOURS OF OPERATION</u>
Fire Station 4, 446 Spears Creek Church Road	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Fire Station 18, 7401 Fairfield Road	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Fire Station 29, 121 Old Congaree Run	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Fire Station 34, 321 Elders Pond Drive	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Melrose Tank, 1522 Gladden Street	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Columbia Place Mall, 7201 Two Notch Road	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Greenview Park, 6700 David Street	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Heathwood Park, 800 Abelia Road	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Southeast Park, 951 Hazelwood Road	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

- Customers can bring clean containers and fill from 250 gallon tanks delivered to above sites.
- National Guard providing security and on-site assistance at tanks.
- Water at these sites is being supplied by a water purification technology unit on loan from Water Missions International. Licensed drinking water plant operators from the South Carolina Water and Wastewater Response Network have volunteered to run this unit.
- FAQ:
 - Each Station will have elevated 275 gallon water tanks with valves on site.
 - This water is being provided by a reverse osmosis filtration unit. It has been tested and found to be safe to drink. Water Missions International and South Carolina Water and Wastewater Response Network are partnering with the City to supply and support this unit.
 - Stations will be set up and distributed at fire stations around the City of Columbia and filled by a water buffalo water truck.
 - “Please take what you need”
 - Stations will be monitored to provide enough water to each location.

Wastewater System

Wastewater (last update from Sunday, Oct. 11)

Canal Repair

- Work continues on the Canal Embankment Project. Significant progress has been made with regards to completing the rock dam across the canal. Work will continue around the clock until complete. Completion of this phase will result in the water level behind the dam rising to provide sufficient water supply to the intake at the Canal Water Treatment Plant. At that time, the pumps and pipe that have been added to the Canal and Broad River will remain in place until the full assessment and any work associated with repairing the areas damaged and securing the entire length of the embankment is complete.
- Work also continues to extend an additional 24” waterline to the Broad River to provide redundancy for the water supply. This is anticipated to be complete by midday Tuesday. This effort helps to secure the supply of water throughout the duration of the canal embankment project.

- The City anticipates the initial phase of the canal embankment project to continue through the week. Work required to restore the canal to its pre-existing or better condition will continue for months to come.

Plant

- Having a sanitary sewer coordination meeting this morning
- Fully operational
- Water around plant is dropping. Were able to access the plant on Saturday with high ride vehicles. Normal vehicles cannot access plant.
- Still need roll off boxes
- Chemical inventory 6-10 days available. Anticipate Monday or Tuesday delivery with dropping water levels.
- Equalization basin at 130.1 ft (134-134 ft. max)
- Influent flow is 82 million gallons per day. Influent pump station is at 122.9 ft causing several manholes in trunkline to overflow. Will need to get this level below 122 ft to stop overflows.
- Effluent flow is 57 million gallons per day

Pump stations

- Mill Creek pumps is operational but 1 grinder is out of service.
- North Columbia is operational but 1 grinder is out of services. In order to keep running several vibration sensors have been disabled.
- West Columbia had pump #3 repaired and now has 3 pumps fully operational.
- Saluda River Fill line seal was repaired and storage capabilities restored. Storage was used to repair West Columbia pump #3.
- Saluda is running in auto but the downstream control manhole is disabled due to control signals not working.
- Pumpstations that have had highwater issues include Mill Creek, North Columbia, Quail Creek, garners Ferry, Harbision #4, Atlas Road, Bendale, and Three Rivers.

Water

- Lake Murray – still producing good quality water that meets standards
- Canal Plant
 - Still producing good quality water that meets standards.
 - The Canal Water Treatment Plant continues to operate successfully. Water continues to be pumped from the Canal and the Broad River at a capacity sufficient to sustain operations. Intake Sunday is on track to be 32MGD. Discharge is on track to be 20 MGD.
 - One 24" pipe currently supplying Canal Plant from Broad River. Second pipe under construction (see below).

Boil Water Advisory

City Announced Partial Repeal of System-wide Boil Water Advisory on Sun., Oct. 11

The City of Columbia Water Works advises the water customers of the **Irmo, Dutch Square, and Saint Andrews areas and all City Of Columbia water customers located west of the Broad River**, located in **Richland and Lexington** Counties, that they no longer need to boil their water prior to drinking or cooking.

In addition, customers located in **northeast Columbia in the areas between Percival Road and Hard Scrabble Road, north of Sparkleberry Lane and North Brickyard Road** no longer need to boil their water prior to drinking or cooking. These locations include areas in and around the **Village at Sandhills, Lake Carolina, the Summit, the Woodlands and Woodcreek Farms Subdivisions**, located in **Richland** County.

Following an intense flushing of the distribution system, bacteriological samples were collected and analyzed by the City of Columbia Water Works. The results of this sampling indicate that the system is safe to use for drinking and cooking purposes.

Should you have any questions concerning this repeal of the Boil Water Advisory, you may call the City of Columbia Customer Care Call Center at 545-3300.

In addition to those areas included above in this repeal, customers in the following areas are also included as part of the repeals issued on October 7th and 10th: Town of Chapin, Ballentine, around Hwy 6 at the Lake Murray Water Treatment Plant, customers on Farming Creek Road and customers along Broad River Road down to Geology Road to include the Lost Creek Drive and Chestnut Hills area. North of Interstate 20, west of Hardscrabble Road, and east of the Broad River, as well as the area along Parkridge Drive between Harbison Boulevard and Lake Murray Boulevard.

Please refer to the map for the locations affected by the repeal on Oct. 11 and the previous repeals.

All other water customers are still under the advisory and should follow the City's [drinking water advisory guidelines](#). In addition, city officials are asking citizens to continue minimizing water usage until further notice. By conserving water, residents will assist the City in protecting one of the region's main water sources while repairs are being completed.

- [Neighborhoods under Boil Water Advisory as of Oct. 11](#)
- [Neighborhoods within Repeal of Boil Water Advisory as of Oct. 11](#)

Voluntary Water Conservation

As the City works to stabilize water levels at the Columbia Canal, City officials are asking citizens to minimize water usage until further notice. By conserving water, residents will assist the City in protecting one of the region's main water sources while repairs are being completed. As a reminder, the system-wide boil water advisory is still in effect for all water customers.

For more information on water conservation, please visit <http://columbiasc.gov/press-releases/100420152013-city-working-to-restore-customer-water-services>.

FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers

A Disaster Recovery Center is a readily accessible facility where applicants may go for information about FEMA or other disaster assistance programs.

The City is working with Richland County and the State to open a number of FEMA Disaster Relief Centers in the coming days at Richland County Libraries. To find a location near you, please visit the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center Locator website: <http://asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm>

The City is working closely with SCEMD and will have more information as it becomes available.

Service Calls

Columbia Richland Communications 9-1-1

	10/4	10/5	10/6	10/7/	10/8	10/9	10/10	10/11	10/12 (00:00-08:00)	Event Total
Agencies										
CPD	631	554	650	605	600	529	408	455	84	4516
CFD	1014	225	159	156	136	140	109	135	29	2103
RCSD	709	655	641	578	641	639	454	540	77	4934
RCEMS	343	240	226	233	221	220	170	205	49	1907
Daily Total	2697	1674	1676	1572	1598	1528	1141	1335	239	13460

CRC Call Volume										
	10/4	10/5	10/6	10/7	10/8	10/9	10/10	10/11	10/12	Event Total
Phones										
911	4653	2075	1775	1441	1532	1295	1159	1116	132	15178
Admin	1762	2308	2123	1818	1612	1595	1250	1213	215	13896
Daily Total	6415	4383	3898	3259	3144	2890	2409	2329	347	29074

*Daily Totals reflect 24 hour period beginning at midnight daily.

Customer Care Center

	10/4	10/5	10/6	10/7	10/8	10/9	10/10	10/11 9a – 5 p	Event Total
Daily Total	6,562	4,390	2,633	2,554	3,738	3,372	1487	3451	28,187

Law Enforcement

Operation Period: Oct. 10th – Oct. 11th 1800 – 0600

Regional Personnel

Downtown (Lt J Williams): Personnel 11 / Vehicles 11

West Region: Personnel 5/ Vehicles 5

North Region: Personnel 13/ Vehicles 13

Metro Region: Personnel 12/Vehicles 12

East Region: Personnel 4/ Vehicles 4

South Region: Personnel 11/Vehicles 11

Greenville City Police: 8/ Vehicles 8 (Lake Katherine) (*12 Hours Worked)

Fixed Post

SC Army National Guard (SCARNG): Personnel -36/ Vehicles 20

EOC Personnel:

Columbia Police department (CPD):1

Columbia Fire Department (CFD): 1

City of Columbia: 2

Richland County Sheriff's Department (RCSD): 3

SC EMD: 1

Total Personnel:

Total Vehicles:

EOC: None

Notable Calls for service related to weather:

Water main break 1200 College St. Road closed Westbound lane only, on College St. between Main and Sumter St.

Web EOC 213 Resource Request Processed: 0

Missing persons (Shift): None (Total Outstanding): None

Weather related fatalities: (Shift) None

Weather related fatalities to date City/Cty: 9

Road Closures

*As conditions change, roadways may be opened.

Road Closures 10/10/2015

Road Closures by Region:

North Region

1. 5000 North Main St – Sinkhole (Barricaded)
2. 6800 North Main St – roadway washed out (manned)
3. Sunset and River – East on Sunset to Main (Barricades)
4. Main & Anthony- Road closed sign- local and emergency traffic only
5. Main & Sunset – Blocked South on Main and West on Sunset (manned)
6. Main & Grace – Closed North on Main to Sunset –Emergency traffic only – (manned)

Metro region

1. 3200 Pinebelt Rd – Roadway caved in (Barricades)
2. 3400 Foxhall Dr – Roadway caved in (Barricades)
3. Taylor & Williams- Manned (to block off Jarvis Klapman Bridge access)
4. Taylor & Hampton- Manned (to block off Jarvis Klapman Bridge access)
5. 1200 College St. between Main and Sumter St. Westbound Lane only (reopen approx. 1130 hrs. (*NEW*))

Metro Region closures due to closing off of Taylor and Marion intersect

1. Taylor Street (eastbound) closed at Sumter Street to Marion St
2. 1300 Marion Street, North and South bound lanes (between Taylor and Hampton St) closed
3. The parking spaces on the East side of 1300 Sumter Street and lane # 2 northbound (closest to the curb) have been blocked to provide room for the trailers that are providing service for Baptist Hospital. This may change due to the needs of the
4. Hospital and the equipment being used.

South region

1. Shop Road at S. Beltline – Structural Damage (DOT Barricade/Cones)
2. I-77 at the Bluff Rd exit ramp – Structural Damage (DOT Barricade/Cones)
3. 4600 Devine Street Bridge – Structural Damage (Active 10-54 by personnel (2)
4. Jim Hamilton Blvd (West bound) – Structural Damage (DOT Barricades/Cones)
5. Crowson Rd (small bridge leading to Marshalls) – Structural Damage (DOT Barricades/Cones)
6. E. Buchanan and Beltline – Structural Damage (DOT Barricades/Cones)

7. 4400Ft Jackson Blvd – Sink hole (Barricades)
8. 1300 Glen Haven Dr. – Washed out (Barricades)
9. 4100 Timberlane Dr. – Washed out (Barricades)
10. 3500 Trenholm Rd- Sink Hole in middle of roadway -Blocked both directions between
11. Wyndham & Tanglewood –DOT placed metal barricades and cones up to block roadway (NEW)
12. Timberlane Dr at Greenhaven Dr – Flooding – Blocked off East on Timberlane and Greenhaven (NEW)

East Region

1. 300 Spears Creek Church Rd – Washed out (Barricaded)
2. 3600 Percival to Smallwood – Washed out (Barricaded)

West Region

1. Lost Creek Dr – Lake Front Dr to Chestnut Hill Plantation Club (Barricaded)
2. Piney Grove (Newnham Dr to Bonnie Forest Blvd). Bridge partially washed out (Barricaded)

Looting and violation of curfew arrests

Columbia Police Chief Skip Holbrook and Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott announced a violation of the mandatory City/County curfew and an additional looting arrest related to the South Carolina flooding event.

10/10/15

OBryan Cabbagestalk (DOB: 1-10-1985) is charged with Violation of Curfew and Simple Possession of Marijuana.

Deputies located Cabbagestalk shortly before 1:00 o'clock this morning at Nick's Gyros and Philly's restaurant located at 1931 Broad River Road.

Deputies on patrol noticed Cabbagestalk in a vehicle breaking the mandatory curfew. While speaking with him, deputies also lawfully searched the suspect and discovered that Cabbagestalk possessed marijuana.

Additionally, a tip led to the arrest yesterday of 21-year-old Shiparish Yates (DOB: 12-15-1993). She is charged with Looting (During a State of Emergency).

Yates is accused of stealing miscellaneous items from a neighbor who evacuated the flood waters earlier in the week from Shandon Crossing Apartments located at 504 South Beltline Boulevard.

Yates allegedly stole an Xbox gaming system, televisions and a microwave from the male victim.

The tipster advised law enforcement that stolen items were being stored in Yates' apartment. Deputies executed a lawful search warrant at her home and discovered stolen merchandise.

A Richland County judge set Yates' surety bond at \$10,000.

Cabbagestalk and Yates are being housed at the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center.

**** The City/County-wide curfew remains in effect from midnight until 6:00 a.m. ****

10/09/15

Jeremy Jeffers (DOB: 8-30-1982)

Charge: Looting during a State of Emergency

Jeffers is accused of stealing miscellaneous items from front yards of flood victims at the 1200 block of GlenHaven Drive on Oct. 9, 2015.

A CPD Officer made the arrest while conducting security checks in various neighborhoods. The stolen items were returned to their rightful owners.

Citizens who witness looting should call 9-1-1.

For more information regarding the SC Code of Law for Looting, visit:

www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t16c007.php

10/08/15

- Justin T. Fann (DOB: 8-20-1982)
- Timothy B. Wyllie (DOB: 6-11-1983)

Charge: Looting

- SC Code of Law: 16-7-10 (2): Unlawful Activity During State of Emergency - Accused of stealing resident's belongings from front porches in the Glennhaven/ Western Pine area.

Report from Richland County:

RCSD arrested 73-year-old **Charles Kauffman** (DOB: 11-2-1942) with **Attempted Murder** and **Illegal Acts during a State of Emergency**.

He was arrested at his Holly Ridge Lane home this morning.

Kauffman is accused of hitting a SC National Guardsman with his vehicle near Harvest Hope on Shop Road Friday. The victim was directing traffic at the time and suffered serious injuries. He has since been treated and released from a local hospital.

RCSD also wrote two citations for violating curfew. I am working on gathering additional information.

All persons arrested/charged are presumed innocent until or unless proven guilty in a court of law.

Fire

- **Columbia Fire Department Partnering with Palmetto Health**
 - CFD is providing resource to assist with an aid station in one community affected by Flood Joaquin
 - The Columbia Fire Department is partnering with Palmetto Health over the next several days to provide a resource, Metropolitan Emergency Response Vehicle (medical bus) for a community first aid station for the citizens of the area near South Beltline.Bld.
 - Volunteer physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and paramedics from Richland County EMS are providing care to those who need wound care, tetanus evaluation/update and general medical care.

- CFD and Palmetto Health will be set up at 100 Whispering Pines Circle on October 12th from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Fire Briefing: 1600 hours / 11 OCT 2015

- We are still maintaining local, regional, state and federal response teams in support of our emergency operations to provide adequate water supply and personnel staffing for day-to-day emergency functions:
 - First Responder Mobilization Statistics as of today: 10/11/2015
 - 32,932 Man-hours
 - 53 vehicles
 - 9 Swift-water teams
 - 40 Departments / Agencies
- CFD is continuing to support the water safety requirements at the Canal operation
- Fire Suppression Units are continuing to evaluate roads, dams, and limited access areas.
- Columbia Fire Department is continuing to partner with Palmetto Health by providing resources to assist with a first aid station in one community affected by Flood Joaquin.
- Today CFD and RC EOC began prioritizing emergency vehicle access needs to include State DOT roads and County Maintained roads (NON-CIVILIAN USE)
- This is based on limited access and population served
- Most of the assets used for the water supply contingency and hospital support functions are being reduced or released.

Major Objectives:

- Road access for emergency vehicles remains a top priority for fire service units
- Begin normalization of Fire Department response services in the coming days
- Provide needed staffing levels due to response delays caused by flooding
- Provide a Swift-water safety team for the construction on the City water canal project.
- Provide a contingent water supply for adequate fire suppression needs across the City of Columbia and Richland County
- Continue the community assessments, in all fire districts, within the flooded areas and assist with critical needs.
- Continue providing information updates to Law Enforcement, City and County Leadership, and participating agencies' PIOs.

IF WE CAN OPEN PRIORITY AREAS FFIREFIGHTER MOBILIZATION AND MILITARY ASSETS CAN BE SIGNIFIGANTLY REDUCED AS WELL AS THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR TASKING ORDERS. (Military Mobilization resources are not free):

- Fire Department Response Units have determined Priority State Roads based on limited emergency vehicle access. Based on limited access/egress in priority due to area covered: (State DOT Roads/ Bridges Only) Population Served by Emergency Services included.
 1. Leesburg Rd at HWY 601 ((being reported that SCDOT is to begin work on tomorrow)
 2. Monticello Rd (being reported that SCDOT is to begin work on tomorrow)
 3. Fairfield Rd
 4. Old Eastover Rd
 5. Lower Richland Blvd at Bluff Rd

6. Polo Rd
 7. Wilson Rd at Hard Scrabble
 8. Alpine Rd
 9. Killian Rd
 10. Fulmer Rd
- CFD is currently coordinating directly with Henry Lewis (RC EOC) on prioritization for NON-STATE DOT Roads (County maintained Roads) Based on limited access/egress in priority due to area covered
 1. Old Isaac Rd
 2. Lame Horse Rd
 3. Old Leesburg Rd (Paved)
 4. Teague Rd.

Staffing Plans for Areas Affected by Flood

- Station 17
 - Increase 17 Engine to 3 Person Engine with FF Mobilization
 - Tanker 17 staffed by CFD
 - Staff additional Army Tanker and Engine
 - Total Increased Personnel 7
- Station 18
 - Increase 18 Engine to 3 Person Engine with FF Mobilization
 - Tanker 18 staffed by CFD
 - Staff additional Army Tanker and Engine
 - Total Increased Personnel 4

Access to the above stations has been cut off from other units due to Monticello Rd and Fairfield Rd closures. This has increased some response times by over 30 minutes to affected areas.

- Station 19
 - Staff Army Tanker
 - Total Increased Personnel 2
 - Station 23 and 29
 - Staff T23 and T29 with FF Mobilization
 - Total Increased Personnel 1 and 1
 - Station 28
 - Staff additional Army Tanker and Engine
 - Total Increased Personnel 5
 - Station 31
 - Add additional Engine with FF Mobilization
 - Add FF Mobilization Tanker at Station 4
 - Total Increased Personnel 5
- Population Served with the Leesburg Road area is over 6,000
- Population served in the Old Eastover Road System over 33,000
- There are over 40,000 residents in the Lower Richland Service area

- Access to the above stations has been cut off from other units due to multiple road closures. This has increased response times by over 30 minutes to some of the affected areas. Lower Richland Blvd and Bluff Rd access, Old Eastover access, 601 Access and Leesburg at 601.
 - Population Served with the Leesburg Road area is over 6,000
 - Population served in the Old Eastover Road System over 33,000
 - There are approximately over 40,000 residents in the Lower Richland Service area

Solid waste

- Storm debris collections started on Wednesday, Oct. 7. Will continue throughout weekend.
- Garbage collections normal service began Thursday, Oct. 8.
- Solid Waste Division will resume regular garbage and recycling services on Monday, October 12, 2015, with the exception of yard waste.
 - Currently, the Solid Waste Division is focusing on storm debris cleanup and will suspend regular yard waste pickup services until Monday, October 19, 2015.
 - Garbage and recycling services may be limited in storm areas due to street access and roadway safety.
 - To stay informed on Solid Waste services, residents can download the free “Columbia, SC Solid Waste” app on iPhone and Android or sign up online at the City’s website for notifications via email, phone call or text message, among other options.
 - For more information or to report lost roll carts, please visit www.columbiasc.net/solid-waste or call the Solid Waste Division at 803-545-3800.
- Shown below is a spreadsheet that shows City bridges and culverts that are in the process or being inspected for safety reasons. SCDOT is doing inspections for the City and should complete them within the next couple of days to include cost estimates for repairs of the ones that are not safe for passage.
- Also Solid Waste is moving debris within the City and have completed two rounds of collections in the flooded areas. Below is the tonnages for each day and a total of what has been collected so far
 - October 8 331 Tons
 - October 9 340 Tons
 - October 10 431 Tons
 - Total tons collected 1,102.

Road Names	Between		Comments	Road Ownership	Jurisdiction	Action Requested	Resolution
Lost Creek Drive			At entrance off Broad River Road	City	City	Request PDA Team for Costing	Remains Closed 6 precast panel have collapsed SCDOT to provide cost estimate for repair

Earlewood Park Bridge			At North Main	City	City	Request PDA Team for Costing	
Jim Hamilton Blvd	Entrance to Jim Hamilton Airport	South Ott		City	City	Request PDA Team for Costing	
King Charles Drive				City	City	Inspect for Safe Passage	Safe for Passage
Lost Creek Drive	Grove Hall Lane	Gauley Drive		City	City	Inspect for Safe Passage	
Quail Lane				City	City	Inspect for Safe Passage	
Woodlake			At Kathwood	City	City	Inspect for Safe Passage	Safe for Passage, Needs Debris Removal
Woodlake			Off Trenholm	City	City	Inspect for Safe Passage	Safe for Passage
Riverbanks Zoo	Zoo	Botanical Gardens				Inspect for Safe Passage	

Flood Damaged Property - Building Permit Information

There are very important facts to be aware of before moving forward with any repairs to a flood-damaged home located in the floodplain. Taking steps without accurate information can cost time and money. Please see details below.

Anyone making repairs to a flood-damaged structure in the City of Columbia needs to get a zoning and building permit from the Development Center. If using the service of a contractor, they must be licensed by the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation. More information about the permitting process can be found online at <http://www.columbiasc.net/development-inspections> or by calling (803) 545-3483. For more information on the Floodplain Development Permitting process, please visit <http://www.columbiasc.net/floodplain>.

Floodplain Management Contacts

- Flood Plain Management questions:
Ali Khan (803) 545-3400
lakhan@columbiasc.net
- Building Code questions:
Jerry Thompson (80) 545-3442

jthompson@columbiasc.net

- Building Permit questions:
Development Center (803) 545-3483
- Planning questions:
Krista Hampton
kmhampton@columbiasc.net

Do I have the green light to get a building permit for my flood-damaged property?



Green light: If your property is not located within the 100-year floodplain or is constructed at least two (2) feet above the base flood elevation, you will be issued a building permit for repairs that meet other applicable code standards (such as building and zoning).



Yellow light: If your property is located within the 100-year floodplain, before a building permit can be issued, it must first be determined through the completion of a Flood Hazard Permit Application:

- The elevation of the first floor of the property through submittal of an *elevation certificate*. (The City's Floodplain Manager may have one on file).
- If the structure sustained *substantial damage* or will require *substantial improvements* to make it habitable.



Red light: If your property is located within the floodplain and sustained *substantial damage* or will require *substantial improvements* to make it habitable, the structure will have to come into compliance with the City of Columbia's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. This means that the first floor of the building must be constructed at a height of two (2) feet above the base flood elevation. Please discuss how this affects your property specifically a City flood management representative.

What is *substantial damage*?

Substantial damage means damage of any origin sustained by a structure where the cost of restoring the structure to its before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred. (Note: the cost of repairs must include all costs necessary to fully repair the structure to its pre-damaged condition.)

What are *substantial improvements*?

Substantial Improvement means improvements of any origin where the cost of improving the structure would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the improvements are made. (Note: the cost of improvements must include all costs necessary to fully improve the structure.)

What is an *elevation certificate*?

The *elevation certificate* is one way for a community to comply with the National Flood Insurance Program requirement that the community obtain the elevation of the lowest floor (including basement)

of all new and substantially improved structures and maintain a record of such information. Elevation Certificates must be prepared and certified by a Licensed Land Surveyor, Registered Professional Engineer or Registered Architect who is authorized by state or local law to certify elevation information.

Donations and Volunteers

- Please advise people to contact the United Way, Red Cross, Harvest Hope, or one of the shelters.
- United way has set up on their website, communications about getting and receiving help: <http://uway.org/news/give-help-get-help-flood-disaster-relief>.
 - This site allows the public to register to help and is a resource for those needing help who are encouraged to call 211 for non-emergency needs.
- Donations of food are being referred to Harvest Hope Food Bank located at 2220 Shop Rd in Columbia.
- No clothing is requested at this time during emergency response. United Way will continue to address needs.
- Citizens and/or businesses wishing to donate food or water may bring these items to the Columbia Fire Department at 1901 Harden St from 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.
- Donated Goods and Services of South Carolina will be coordinating donations and volunteers. Please call 1-888-585-9643.

Additional Notes

- City staff
 - The City of Columbia resumed regular operations on Monday, October 12, 2015.
- Federal Disaster Applications
 - To begin the Federal Disaster application process, please call 1.800.621.FEMA or visit <http://www.disasterassistance.gov>. To find a location near you, please visit the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center Locator website: <http://asd.fema.gov/inter/locator/home.htm>
- Shelters

Richland County designated shelters are listed below:

- Temple Baptist Church (36 evacuees as of Sat., Oct 10)
- St. Andrews Presbyterian Church (68 evacuees as of Sat., Oct. 10)

If an alternate location is needed, Shandon Baptist Church is available.