My Location (JAVASCRIPT:updateLocation();)

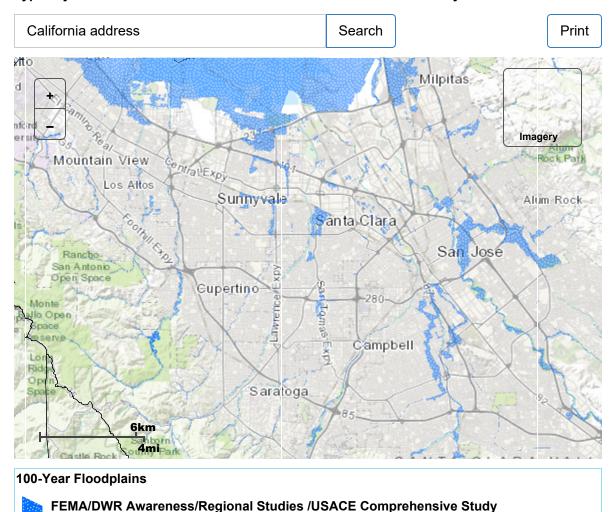
Cal OES (http://caloes.ca.gov/Pages/default.aspx)



## How does MyHazards work?

MyHazards is a tool for the general public to discover hazards in their area (earthquake, flood, fire, and tsunami) and learn steps to reduce personal risk. Using the MyHazards tool, users may enter an address, city, zip code, or may select a location from a map. The map targets the location, and allows users to zoom and scroll to their desired view. The screen then presents information on the risks identified within the search radius, and recommended actions. MyHazards website performs best when using Internet Explorer. Hazard Data is approximate and data layer visibility are subject to the extent of the Map.

Type in your address below to learn how to address natural hazards in your area.



## Flood Risk

Floods are one of the most common hazards in the United States. Flood effects can be local, impacting a neighborhood or community, or very large, affecting entire river basins and multiple states.

However, all floods are not alike. Some floods develop slowly, sometimes over a period of days. But flash floods can develop quickly, sometimes in just a few minutes and without any visible signs of rain. Flash floods often have a dangerous wall of roaring water that carries rocks, mud, and other debris and can sweep away most things in its path. Overland flooding occurs outside a defined river or stream, such as when a levee is breached, but still can be destructive. Flooding can also occur when a dam breaks, producing effects similar to flash floods.

Be aware of flood hazards no matter where you live, but especially if you live in a low-lying area, near water or downstream from a dam. Even very small streams, gullies, creeks, culverts, dry streambeds, or low-lying ground that appear harmless in dry weather can flood. Every state is at risk from this hazard.

★ FEMA's flood web page (https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-flood-hazard-mapping)

NOTE: FEMA is currently updating the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) inventory through its Map Modernization Program. The updated maps will be added to this site as they are available, however, the digital information for many California counties has not been completed.

★ Map Modernization Program ( https://hazardsfema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html? id=8b0adb51996444d4879338b5529aa9cd)

Please be sure to check on-line at the FEMA Map Service Center website to view the most current FIRMs and use the search function for a "Public Flood Map."

★ FEMA Map Service Center (http://msc.fema.gov/portal)

## Flood Preparedness

Before a flood there are several steps you will want to take, including:

- Get an emergency supply kit
- Make a plan if your family is separated during a flood
- Be informed on flood watches and warnings by listening to the radio or watching television

For more information on the above topics:

★ Ready America (http://readyamerica.com/personal-home/)

Before a flood there are several steps you will want to take, including:

- Get flood insurance--you can benifit from it even if you do not live in a high flood risk area.
  - ★ Flood Insurance (https://www.floodsmart.gov)
- Avoid building in a floodprone area unless you elevate and reinforce your home.
- Elevate the furnace, water heater, and electric panel if susceptible to flooding.
- Install "check valves" in sewer traps to prevent floodwater from backing up into the drains of your home.
- Contact community officials to find out if they are planning to construct barriers (levees, beams, floodwalls) to stop floodwater from entering the homes in your area.
- Seal the walls in your basement with waterproofing compounds to avoid seepage.

For more information on these items, see the Ready America and FEMA websites. In addition, the California Dept. of Water Resources has a web page with extensive links about flood management in California.

- ★ FEMA Flood Zones (https://www.ready.gov/floods)
- ★ California Dept. of Water Resources (https://www.water.ca.gov/Programs/flood-management)
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