



Public Works

Flood Control – Roads – Weed Control – Vehicle Maintenance

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To the residents of Davis County:

The spring of 2023 is shaping up to be a high runoff year as we have seen a snow pack level that has been significantly higher than the previous couple of years. It is important to note however that there was a similar snow pack level in 2011 that passed with no notable flooding in Davis County. We recognize that there has been much discussion and comparison to the flooding events that occurred in 1983, but would like to remind the public that since the floods of 1983 significant work has been done to upgrade infrastructure throughout the county in an effort to mitigate flood flows and reduce the possibility of a repeat of the flooding that occurred in 1983.

Over the last four decades, Davis County has changed dramatically. The population of the county has grown significantly which has required careful attention to how flood control is approached. The Davis County Flood Control program was started shortly after the floods of 1983 and in cooperation with local cities as well as State and Federal Departments, Davis County Public Works has worked to improve the network of flood control channels throughout the County. The risk of flooding has not been eliminated, however things have been dramatically improved since 1983.

With nearly 200 miles of stream channels and thousands of road crossings in Davis County alone, it can be very difficult for municipalities to keep track of what is happening on an individual waterway. There are however several things that property owners can do to reduce the impacts of flooding on their property.

We encourage residents to make an effort to protect their families and property from flooding by:

Keeping children and pets away from flood control channels. Water in the channels can move very quickly and can even be strong enough to move large rocks and debris. Often time's water levels can rise rapidly without warning. Flood flows generally peak in the evenings when snow that has melted at higher elevations during the warmth of the day, finally reaches the valley below.

Keeping debris and floatables away from the stream banks. Chairs, tables, fire pits and fire wood, garden tools, toys and equipment can all be carried away by high water flows. If this debris collects at the entrance of a culvert downstream it can block the water from being able to pass into the culvert and the water has nowhere to go except for out of its designated banks. If sandbags are used to help protect property, please remember to remove the sandbags once flood flows have slowed down. If left in place they will eventually deteriorate and fall into the channel where they can still pose a problem for lower stream flows throughout the summer.

Davis County Public Works Flood Control, in addition to local cities, have been monitoring the snowpack and water levels of waterways throughout the county. A significant effort is being made to make sure that culverts and flood channels are free of debris and we are prepared to respond to significant flooding events if they occur. If you find significant obstructions in stream channels that you need help removing, please contact our office. As we works together we can minimize the impacts of flooding throughout the county.

**Davis County Public Works
Flood Control**