



# Davis County Commission

Commissioner Randy B. Elliott    Commissioner Lorene M. Kamalu, MPA    Commissioner Bob J. Stevenson

## NEWS RELEASE, April 3, 2023

This year's record snow pack is being compared to that of 1983 and the resulting floods. And, residents of Davis County are justified in their concerns of a repeat. However, Davis County Public Works would like to remind people of what has taken place since that time.

The Davis County Flood Control program was started shortly after the floods of 1983 in cooperation with local cities, as well as state and federal departments, to improve the network of flood control channels throughout the County. 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 individual waterways.

Significant work has been done to upgrade infrastructure throughout the county in an effort to mitigate flood flows and reduce the possibility of flooding. 2011 snow pack levels were similar to this year's and there was no notable flooding. However, moisture is still accruing.

Citizens can and must do their part. There are several things that property owners can do to protect their families and reduce the impacts of flooding on their property.

- Keep children and pets away from flood control channels.
- Keep 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. At that point, the water has nowhere to go except for out of its designated banks.
- Use sandbags to protect your doorways and window wells. Remove sandbags once flood flows have slowed down. If left in place, sandbags will eventually deteriorate and fall into the channel posing a problem for lower stream flows throughout the summer.
- If you find significant obstructions in stream channels that you need help removing, contact your city floodplain manager or Davis County Public Works.

According to Davis County Public Works Director Adam Wright, "Davis County Flood Control, with the help of local cities, has been monitoring the snowpack and water levels of waterways throughout the county. Major efforts are being made to ensure culverts and flood channels are free of debris and we are prepared to respond to significant flooding events if they occur. As we work together, we can minimize the impacts of flooding throughout the county."



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