



Flooding? In the Desert? Absolutely!

Yes, flooding in Arizona happens more than you might think and can be a real problem, especially if you aren't prepared for it.

Dealing with stormwater is different in the desert than it is in states where creeks, rivers and storm drain systems handle the frequent flow of floodwaters.

Rain is infrequent in the desert, so many communities rely on natural waterways like washes and arroyos or existing infrastructure like streets and storm drains to direct runoff.

Summer storms can be high intensity resulting in a large amount of water that cannot be absorbed in the ground. A few inches of rain on these surfaces can turn into dangerous flash floods threatening your life and property. So, what can you do about it?

Find out if your home is in a floodplain. You can view online maps on the Flood Control District of Maricopa County (District) website to determine if your property is in a Special Flood Hazard Area or 100-year FEMA floodplain. Visit maricopa.gov/959/Floodplain-Information for more information.

Keep in mind that flood hazards and risks can change. Changing stream patterns, vegetation growth and erosion can affect stormwater flow and the areas susceptible to flooding.

Also, floodplain maps can change because of updated tools used to analyze flooding patterns, rainfall records and changing federal requirements. That's why the District periodically updates flood hazards and updates floodplain maps throughout Maricopa County.

The District is currently working with the City of Phoenix on an update to the Metro Phoenix Area Drainage Master Study and Plan (ADMS/P), in an effort to identify flooding problems and develop strategies to reduce flooding hazards and risks within the study area.

For more details on the study please go to page 2.



Street flooding on Grand Avenue

METRO PHOENIX DRAINAGE MASTER STUDY/PLAN UPDATE TIMELINE

PHASE 1 Winter 2019 - Spring 2020	PHASE 2 Spring 2020 - Winter 2022	PHASE 3 Winter 2022 - Winter 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping • Data Collection • Preliminary Modeling • Public Information Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Investigation • Detailed Modeling • Model Validation and Calibration • Flood Hazard Identification • Public Information Meetings • Flood Risk Analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cave Creek and Grand Canal Floodplain Delineations • Public Outreach • Preliminary Alternative Development • Recommended Alternative Implementation Plan



Metro Phoenix Flood Hazard Study Area

The Metro Phoenix study area is large, covering approximately 90 square miles. It is located mostly within the City of Phoenix but also includes parts of Scottsdale and Tempe along the eastern boundary. Once completed, the study will be used to identify, define and budget future potential drainage improvement projects.

Property owners will be able to use the results of this study to see flood hazards and risks in their area and make informed choices to reduce their risk of flooding. Potential solutions will also be updated using new computer modeling tools and aerial mapping.

The Metro Phoenix ADMS/P Update will:

- Create a database of known flooding and drainage problems.
- Develop state-of-the-art models using recent aerial mapping.
- Potentially update FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas.
- Assess flooding hazards and propose mitigation.
- Prepare a plan to provide potential solutions for flood-prone areas.

Metro Phoenix ADMP STUDY AREA BOUNDARY



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Public input on flooding hazards and problem areas is an important tool in the study. Residents, businesses, and other stakeholders are encouraged to sign up to the study mailing list to receive project updates and details on how to submit their flood stories.

Scan the QR code at right to join the Metro Phoenix ADMS Mailing List or click on the link here: surveymonkey.com/r/MetroADMS



ABOUT THE FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT OF MARICOPA COUNTY

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County was formed more than 60 years ago to address flooding throughout the county. It works to protect Maricopa County residents from the risk of injury and property damage due to flooding. From building and maintaining dams, basins and channels to embracing new tools and educational strategies, the diverse group of professionals with the District keep pace with developments and resources available to serve one of the fastest growing counties in the country.

Learn More about the District: maricopa.gov/floodcontrol