



Flood Advisories, Watches & Warnings

The purpose of this letter is to provide seasonal readiness for flooding to residents of Sayward.

Flood Warnings and Advisories can be found directly at: <http://bcrcfbc.env.gov.bc.ca/warnings/index.htm>

Locally, advisories and will be communicated via both the Strathcona Regional District's and Village of Sayward's social media sites and websites. Warnings will be communicated via Connect Rocket and One Call Now.

Residents are also encouraged to monitor weather forecasts and prepare accordingly, particularly if you live in a high-risk area or have frequent issues with flooding. Unsure if you live in a high-risk area? The Salmon River 200-year floodplain map is available at

<https://srd.ca/services/emergency-preparedness/flood-maps-studies/>

What Do These Advisories Mean?

1. High Stream flow Advisory:

- River levels are rising or expected to rise rapidly.
- Minor flooding in low-lying areas is possible.
- No major flooding is expected.

2. Flood Watch:

- River levels are rising and will be approaching, or may exceed bank full levels.
- Flooding of areas adjacent to affected rivers may occur.

3. Flood Warning:

- River levels have exceeded bank full levels or are expected to exceed bank full levels.
- Flooding of areas adjacent to the affected rivers should be expected.

Flood Season Preparation

How can I prepare my private property?

Though flooding may be imminent, damage to your property is not. With proper preparation water damage from flooding can be greatly reduced and in many cases prevented all together.

How to Safeguard your Home

- Seal cracks in the foundation and around doors and windows.
- Installing backflow valves on basement floor drains, washing machine drains, toilets and sink drains.
- Move large appliances, furnaces, hot water heaters and electrical panels out of the basement or ground floor when possible.
- Install a sump pump.
- Store valuable and/or important items and documents off the ground or on upper floors when possible.
- Anchor all fuel sources.

Things you can do to the exterior of your home:

- Enhance landscaping so water drains away from the foundation.
- Ensure water from downspouts drains away from your residence.
- Clean your gutters regularly.
- Maintain your perimeter drains regularly.
- Keep nearby storm drains clear of debris.

We've found some useful websites if you think you could be impacted by flooding:

- Report a FLOOD EMERGENCY, contact 911
- Read up on emergency preparedness and flood information
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/preparedbc/know-your-hazards/floods>
- For rainfall warnings visit https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/index_e.html?prov=bc

Who is Responsible for What?

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is responsible for:

- ✓ ensuring the adequate drainage of run off from road surfaces in Electoral Areas
- ✓ providing for the passage of water from one side of the road to the other, including passage of natural water courses

The fundamental purpose of drainage systems for our provincial highways is to serve the present and future transportation needs of the province. Ditches are not a storm water system for managing private property surface drainage – they are for managing run off from road surfaces.

Property Owner responsible for:

- ✓ checking to make sure your driveway culvert is clear from debris, not blocked or pinched
- ✓ surface water that falls on private property should be dealt with within the boundaries of the property.
- ✓ not collecting and directing into Ministry of Transportation highway drainage systems.
- ✓ maintenance of their driveway access(es) and culvert(s)
- ✓ or replacement of culvert if necessary

In The Event of a Flood

Building a Sandbag Dike

If there is a risk of flooding, free sand and sandbags are made available for the public to fill for themselves at the following locations:

- Behind Kelsey Bay Recreation Centre 652 H'Kusam Way
- Sayward Mainroad Yard 797 North Island Highway

It takes two people approximately one hour to fill and place 100 sandbags, giving you a 1-x-20-foot wall. Make sure you have enough sand, burlap or plastic bags, shovels and time to properly prepare.

BAGS REQUIRED PER 100 LINEAR FEET OF DIKE

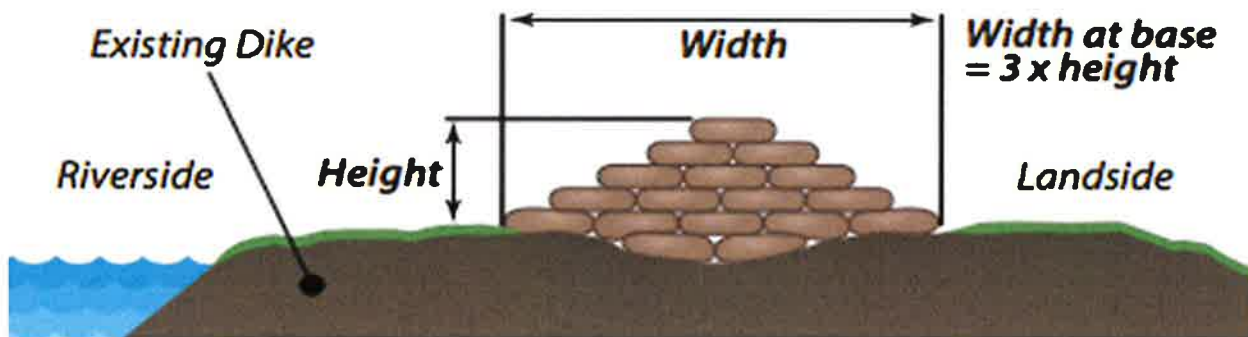
Height above dike	Bags required
1/3 metre	600
2/3 metre	2,000
1 metre	3,400



Plan of bottom layer



Method of lapping bags



- Locate the sandbag dike on high ground as close as possible to your home.
- Dig a bonding trench, one sack deep by two sacks wide.
- Alternate direction of sacks with bottom layer (e.g. bottom layer length-wise with dike, next layer crosswise).
- Sacks should be approximately half-filled with clay, silt or sand.
- Tying or sewing of sacks is not necessary.
- Lap unfilled portion under next sack.
- Press firmly in place.

Contacts & Additional Information

BC Hydro	1-888-769-3766
Strathcona Regional District's Emergency Program Coordinator preparedness@srd.ca	or 250-830-6702
Mainroad North Island Contracting	1-877-215-712
Pat Rusch – Sayward Emergency Program Coordinator	250-282-3238

Want to know more about flood preparedness and managing storm water?

<http://www.toolkit.bc.ca/resource/stormwater-planning-guidebook-british-columbia>

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery>

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc/know-the-risks/floods>

Emergency Notification Systems

One Call Now

This system is used by the Village's Public Works staff to let Village residents know of problems with water, sewer or other systems. It can be used to notify the entire community of any emergency situation. It is important that we keep our resident list current. The system only allows for 10 digit phone numbers, no long distance numbers be used. To provide us with your information please call the Village Office at 250-282-5512.

Connect Rocket

These emergency notifications are delivered by both text message and voice call to landlines and cellphones. You can sign up to receive notifications at <https://strathconard.connectrocket.com>

Social Media Sites

Facebook Strathcona Emergency Program	https://www.facebook.com/StrathconaEP/
Facebook Village of Sayward	https://www.facebook.com/VillageOfSayward/
Twitter Strathcona Emergency Program	@SEP_EPC
Instagram Strathcona Emergency Program	@SEP_EPC