

FEMA



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Oldsmar City Hall
(813) 749-1100

Oldsmar Fire & Rescue
(813) 749-1200

Oldsmar Municipal
Services
(813) 749-1260

Oldsmar Public Works
(813) 749-1226

Oldsmar Building Division
(813) 749-1124

Pinellas County
Citizen Information
(727) 464-4333 or
(727) 464-3800

Pinellas County
Emergency Mgmt.
(727) 464-3800

FEMA
(800) 621-3362

If you see construction
or filling without
permit(s), please call
Code Enforcement
(813) 749-1129

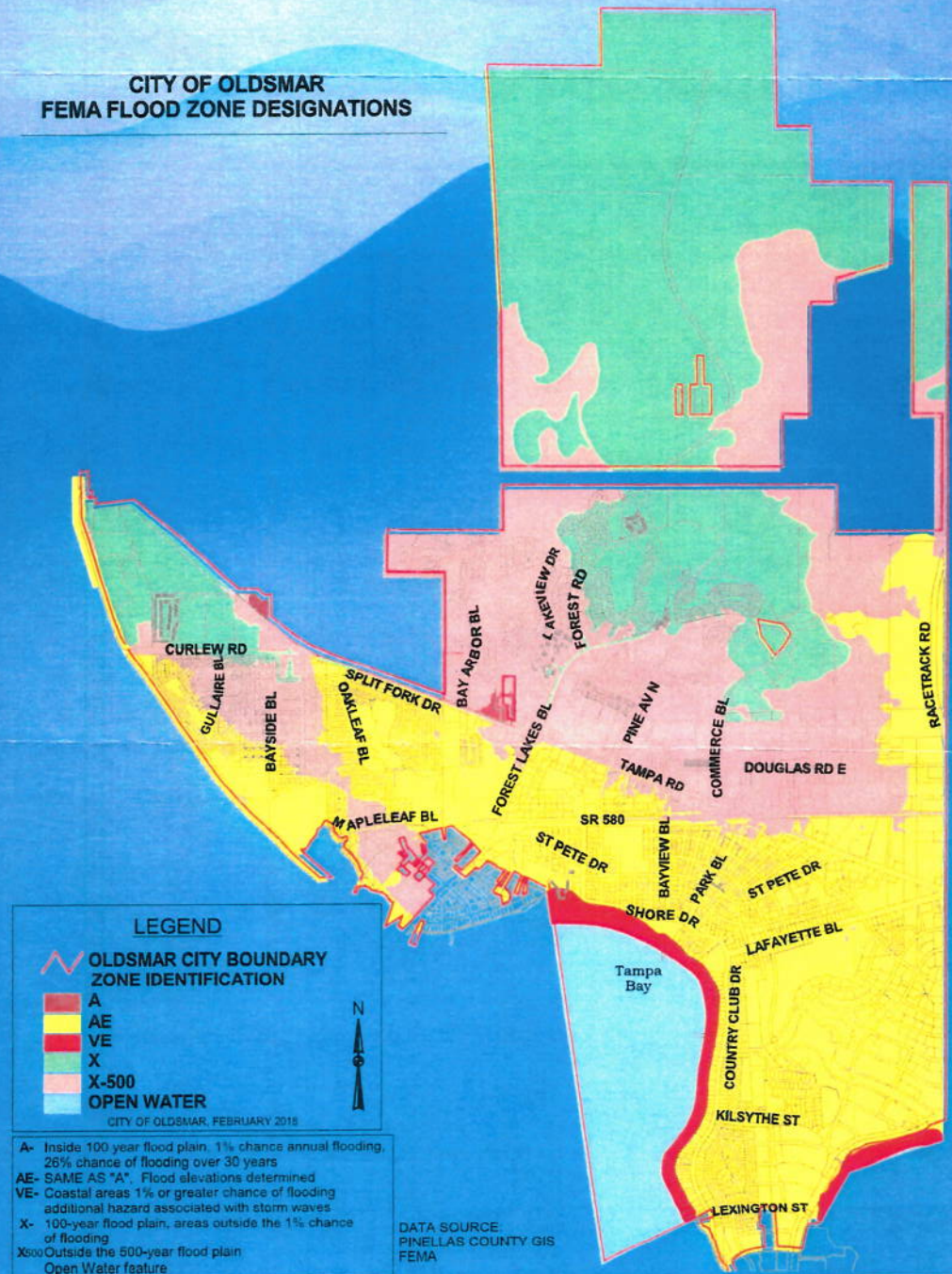
For further information
regarding shelters,
evacuation routes, etc.,
please visit these
websites:
MyOldsmar.com
Fema.gov
PinellasCounty.org

OLDSMAR FLOOD ZONE MAP and Additional Information

City of Oldsmar FEMA FLOOD ZONE DESIGNATIONS

"If you want to know if your property is in the Special Flood Hazard Area, check our website: myoldsmar.com/158/Disaster-Links. You'll find a wealth of information about the City's Flood Insurance Rate Maps, coastal high hazard areas, flood depths at your property, natural conservation areas and wetlands, flood insurance, special rules for building in the floodplain, and ideas for protecting your property from flood damage. Or you can call the Planning Division with all your floodplain questions at 813-749-1147. We also have copies of FEMA Elevation Certificates on many buildings located within the floodplain."

CITY OF OLDSMAR FEMA FLOOD ZONE DESIGNATIONS



OLDSMAR FLOOD FACTS

LOCAL FLOOD HAZARD: You are receiving this because you live in or own property in the Special Flood Hazard Area – also known as the 100-year floodplain. This refers to an area with a 1% chance of receiving a severe flood annually. Because you live in this area, you are required to have a federally-backed flood insurance policy (unless you do not have a mortgage on the structure). It means that you will be required to build your structure to code should you receive monetary damages to your property in excess of 50% of the market value of your structure.

TYPES OF FLOODING: Oldsmar is home to “coastal” and “inland” flooding. Inland flooding occurs when lakes rise above normal levels or when depressions in the land are filled by rain and create “ponds.” Development is partially to blame as many natural floodplain areas provide excellent habitat for diverse wildlife and enhance water quality, as vegetation and soils found within the floodplain serve as water filters, intercepting surface water runoff before reaching the bays. A wetland is a transitional area between water and land which supports unique wetland vegetation. The native vegetation and wildlife in the wetlands must be protected. The undeveloped floodplain areas lessen the effects of storm and flood waters by providing natural storage areas for flood waters and by buffering the coastal areas from storm surges, thus protecting human life and property from flood damage.

NATURAL & BENEFICIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE FLOODPLAIN: A floodplain is any land area susceptible to being inundated by water. In our City natural floodplain areas provide excellent habitat for diverse wildlife and enhance water quality, as vegetation and soils found within the floodplain serve as water filters, intercepting surface water runoff before reaching the bays. A wetland is a transitional area between water and land which supports unique wetland vegetation. The native vegetation and wildlife in the wetlands must be protected. The undeveloped floodplain areas lessen the effects of storm and flood waters by providing natural storage areas for flood waters and by buffering the coastal areas from storm surges, thus protecting human life and property from flood damage.

FLOOD WARNING: The most serious threat of general flooding is during the hurricane season (June – November). Tune into TV and radio weather broadcasts for special local advisories. If you need assistance or transportation during an evacuation because of age, handicap, or other special needs, contact Pinellas County Emergency Management office – Pinellas Hurricane Hotline and register at 727-464-3800. Don't wait for a storm to strike; call as soon as possible so that plans can be made in advance to assist you.

BEFORE THE STORM: Know Oldsmar's flood warning procedures. Many of these procedures are outlined in this brochure; further information can be found at: MyOldsmar.com. Plan your evacuation in advance. Know where, when, and how you are going to evacuate prior to a storm. Your plan should provide for you, your pets, your hurricane supplies (food, medicine, etc.) and insurance considerations. Also take proper identification and important papers and documents. If you live in an area that is particularly vulnerable to flooding, you may want to keep plywood, plastic sheeting, lumber, and materials in stock to prepare your property and to aid in emergency repairs afterwards.

DURING THE STORM: Keep a battery-powered radio tuned to local stations and comply with any evacuation orders.

FLOOD SAFETY: Stay away from flood waters! The #1 cause of death during floods is drowning. High water often conceals storm drain inlets and the depth of ditches.

DRIVING IN FLOODING AREAS: More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Drive around flooded intersections or choose another route. Water depth of 6 to 10 inches is enough to ruin an engine and carry your car (in fast moving waters).

DANGER OF ELECTRICITY: Do not approach electrical lines and never use electrical equipment or appliances that are wet! Remember to turn off your electricity, check for gas leaks, be alert for animals, and watch your step for hidden hazards.

FLOOD EMERGENCIES: If you have a flooding emergency or drainage problem, call the Public Works Department for help. If maintenance of the City system is required, they can handle it or, if there is no system, they can refer it for further investigation. They can also explain ways to stop flooding and prevent damage on your property. There is also extensive emergency information provided in The Hurricane Guide which is typically available June through November at the Oldsmar City Hall, Library, and other service provider locations. Remember: TURN OFF GAS AND ELECTRICITY AND AVOID RUNNING WASHERS.

FLOOD INSURANCE: Flooding is NOT covered by normal homeowners insurance. You can protect your home and its contents from flood loss through the National Flood Insurance Program. Contact any licensed property or casualty broker for more information.

FLOOD INSURANCE FACTS: Flood insurance is available for most enclosed buildings, including contents. This includes homes, condominiums, mobile homes on foundations, businesses, and farms. The contents of a rental unit are also insurable. There is a 30-day waiting period from the policy purchase until coverage begins, with the following exceptions: 1. There is a one day period after a policy coverage increase. 2. Coverage becomes effective immediately at the time of a house title transfer. Flood insurance is necessary to obtain federally secured funds to buy, build, or renovate a structure located in a flood hazard area. This includes federal grants, FHA & VA loans, as well as most conventional mortgage loans. Check to see if your property is within a designated Flood Hazard Area. Do this even if you do not (or did not) require a conventional mortgage loan to purchase your house or business. To protect yourself financially, purchase flood insurance if your property is in a designated flood hazard area. If your home receives flood water damage, whether or not you purchased a flood insurance policy is important - the type and amount of federal disaster assistance available to you changes if you do not have flood insurance.

PROPERTY PROTECTION MEASURES:

There are many methods for protecting your home and may include more than one of the following: You can divert water from your property by regrading or by constructing an earthen berm, construction swales (a shallow ditch), retention areas (small, shallow depressions), and other alternatives. These methods may require permits and should be discussed with design professionals in the Building Division. In extreme events, you may need to use sandbagging or other materials to seal openings and cracks. Contact Municipal Services or the Fire Dept. to see if this service is provided during an event. If roof drains are causing a problem, gutters can help direct the run-off away from the house. www.floodsmart.gov

DRAINAGE SYSTEM MAINTENANCE: Oldsmar is interfaced with a system of natural and man-made canals, ditches, and waterways that serve to direct and maintain a flow of water that will avoid flooding. It is most important that these elements of the floodwater drainage system be kept open and clear of debris and trash that could impede the flow of water in a flooding situation.

Do not place any debris, lawn trash, or other materials in stormwater inlets, ditches, or other waterways. Dumping into the drainage system can easily create blockages that result in flooding during a severe rain – the house you flood may be your own! Dumping of debris or trash in the drainage system or alteration of the channels is prohibited. Violators should be reported to law enforcement or Public Works officers.

Always check with the Building Division before you make any changes such as grading, filling, or construction on your property.

FLOODPLAIN PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT & SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS:

The purpose of the Flood Regulations of the Oldsmar Land Development Code is to restrict or prohibit uses and/or construction that are dangerous to health, safety, property, and general welfare due to increase in erosion, flood heights, or velocity waters. Oldsmar's Building Division can provide you with the requirements that govern construction in flood hazard areas. New construction or substantial improvement of any residential structure in the Special Flood Hazard Area is required to have the lowest floor elevated to one foot above the base Flood Elevation.

An Elevation Certificate, prepared, signed, and sealed by a registered land surveyor will be required. Development in the Coastal High Hazard Area or Floodway is also regulated by the codes above. Additional criteria will be met for any new construction or substantial improvement in these areas.

Past completed Elevation Certificates and flood zone determinations are available through the Planning and Redevelopment Department or at MyOldsmar.com.

 **ALERT Pinellas**
Emergency Notification Center

Free emergency warning system.
SIGN UP NOW:

<http://bit.ly/AlertPinellasSignUp>