


INSIDE WILLOW FORK DRAINAGE DISTRICT



Enhancing Our Community
through Drainage, Parks & Trails

May 2023

**Willow Fork Drainage District
Wants You to Know...** Floods don't wait and neither should you. Buy Flood Insurance Today.



When streets turn to rivers, flood insurance can help you recover faster! Did you know when a flood is forecast or imminent, a National Flood Insurance Policy (NFIP) will cover up to \$1,000 in allowable expenses to protect or move insured property to safety?

Flooding can be emotionally and financially devastating, with just one inch of flood water potentially causing more than \$25,000 in damage. An active NFIP policy can help protect your home, including up to \$250,000 for a building structure and up to \$100,000 for contents, such as clothing, furniture, electronics and food.

For the past several years, hurricanes and off-season rain events have caused above-average flooding, a trend resulting in more flood events. Even if your home has flooded before, you are not automatically disqualified from purchasing flood insurance.

Act now! In most cases, it takes up to 30 days for flood insurance to go into effect. Visit [FloodSmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov) or call 800-427-4661 to learn more.

Act Now! Make Sure Your Flood Policy is Active Before Hurricane Season

The Atlantic hurricane season begins June 1, but National Hurricane Preparedness Week, April 30-May 6, is a month earlier for good reason. In most cases, it takes up to 30 days for flood insurance to go into effect. All residents during Harvey, WFDD's board experienced the storm firsthand and is committed to reaching every homeowner on the importance of purchasing or renewing flood insurance. "Living through Harvey you never forget how devastating it was for friends, neighbors, and our whole community. Having flood insurance can help you recover faster," said WFDD Director Alec Bray, who also serves on the communications committee. "Annually, we send a flood insurance reminder postcard to ensure new homeowners get this important message and to reinforce it with longtime residents." Watch your mail or [view the full postcard on our website](#). To learn more about the National Flood Insurance program and how to prepare for flooding, which can happen any time of year, not just in hurricane season, visit [FloodSmart.gov](https://www.floodsmart.gov). Helpful information on preparing for hurricane season can be found at [NOAA Hurricane Preparedness Week](#)

[Read Postcard](#)



Mid-Block Crossings Increase Pedestrian Safety

In 2020, WFDD began installing mid-block crossings to help pedestrians and cyclists more safely navigate trails that intersect busy streets like S. Mason Road and Westheimer Pkwy. These designated places for pedestrians to cross when intersections are spaced too far apart include signage, flashing lights, and night-time street lighting. They also help raise pedestrian awareness when approaching a high traffic crossing as well as alert oncoming traffic to people in the crosswalk. To date, 11 crossings have been completed, six at major thoroughfares with button activated flashing lights and five more at minor neighborhood streets with high foot traffic. Additionally, WFDD completed a pedestrian underpass at Westheimer Pkwy just west of Cinco Ranch Blvd. in 2021.

"The new mid-block crossings have been a great improvement in cycling quality and safety. Every time a trail crosses a road or a street, there is an inherent risk of collision, and I personally have witnessed such collisions," said Katya Morzhueva, resident and owner of Cool Cat Cycles. "High driving speeds and distracted driving make safety measures an absolute necessity, especially since kids are using the trails to get to and from school. We applaud WFDD's investment in all aspects of enhancing people-centered public spaces, including safety." Potential future projects include underpasses at S. Fry Rd. north of Westheimer Pkwy and on the north side of Buffalo Bayou at Cinco Ranch Blvd., just south of Cinco Ranch junior and senior high schools. [View WFDD's parks master plan with mid-block crossings](#).

[View Parks/Trails Map](#)

WFDD Wants to Hear from You



Have a question, concern or suggestion? Or maybe you want to inquire about an issue specific to your neighborhood? WFDD welcomes guests at its twice monthly meetings at 11:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month regarding drainage and on the fourth Thursday regarding parks and trails. Meetings are held at LJA Engineering, 1904 West Grand Pkwy North, Suite 100, Katy, Texas 77449 and are open to the public. Comments from residents and the public are heard at the beginning of every meeting, or [contact WFDD through the website](#).

[Get In Touch](#)

If you find this information helpful, please forward to your neighbors.

