



May 8, 2020

To: Residents, Lending Institutions, Real Estate Agents, and Insurance Agents

Subject: Flood Insurance Rate Map Zone Information

To whom it may concern:

As a public service, the City of Urbandale offers flood and stormwater related information for properties with Urbandale. We encourage all property owners, real estate agents, and insurance agents to be knowledgeable about the flood-related issues.

- A webmap, additional details on the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), and general information on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) in Urbandale is available at <https://www.urbandale.org/663/Floods-and-FEMA>.
- We have a handout on the flood insurance purchase requirement that can help people who need a mortgage or loan for a building or property in the SFHA (attached and available on our website). Flood insurance is required for federally backed loans.
- **Turn Around Don't Drown:** Know your evacuation routes and keep important documents elevated. Retrofitting techniques such as elevation of structure or HVAC systems may offer property protection.
- All work in the floodplain requires a floodplain development permit from the City of Urbandale Community Development office.
- It is important to keep the conveyance systems clean and clear of debris. Per City Ordinance Chapter 57, it is illegal to dump in our water ways. To report illegal dumping, contact the email or phone number below.

Upon request, we will provide you with the following site-specific information:

- Whether a property is within the limits of the SFHA or floodway as shown on the current FIRM of Polk County.
- Additional flood insurance data for a site, such as the FIRM zone and the base flood elevation, if shown on the FIRM.
- Elevation certificates (if available) for properties and structures.
- Whether a Letter of Map Amendment or Revision (LOMA, LOMR) exists for a parcel.

If you would like to make a further inquiry, please contact us with address of the property at [stormwater@urbandale.org](mailto:stormwater@urbandale.org) or 515-278-3950. Our offices are currently closed to the public due to COVID-19, but we are available via email or phone Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. There is no charge for this service.