



# Frequently Flooded Areas

## What are they?

Frequently flooded areas include flood plains and areas prone to flooding. They may occur near streams, rivers, lakes, coasts, wetlands, or areas with high groundwater. Flood areas pose a risk to public safety.

Pierce County has a variety of flood hazard areas. Major rivers in Pierce County with frequently flooded areas include the White River, Nisqually River, Carbon River, and Puyallup River.

## Why do we value them?



Frequently flooded areas help maintain fish and wildlife habitat



Natural flood plains help to disperse and store water during storms and peak flows.





## How do we protect them?

- The County is working on a Flood Hazard Management Plan to protect communities from flood hazards.
- Restrict development in mapped floodplains.
- Comply with adopted stormwater standards and best management practices.
- Assessments to ensure that development in flood areas does not adversely affect habitat.

## What changes are needed?

- Consider requiring assessments for development in frequently flooded areas.

[PierceCountyWa.gov/CriticalAreas](http://PierceCountyWa.gov/CriticalAreas)



Pierce County