

Focus on: Community Flood Assistance and Resilience for renters, land- and business- owners



More information

Flooding is a normal part of the ecology in the Chehalis River basin. However, flooding also puts homes, businesses, towns, and community assets at risk. Flooding and flood damage are expected to increase in the future with climate change.

For more details, visit chehalisbasinstrategy.com

Contact information

Chrissy Bailey
360-407-6781
chrissy.bailey@ecy.wa.gov

ADA Accessibility

To request ADA accommodations, contact us by phone at 360-407-6831 or email us at ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov

Or visit: ecology.wa.gov/accessibility

For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

Chehalis Basin Strategy

The Chehalis Basin Strategy is an ambitious collection of potential actions to address the twin challenges of reducing damages from flooding and restoring degraded aquatic habitat in the Chehalis River basin. The Chehalis Basin is the second largest river basin in the state.

The Strategy includes near- and long-term actions as well as small- and large-scale projects designed to reduce flood-related damage in the Basin while also restoring aquatic habitat for native species. Not taking action in the Basin could cost Washington as much as \$3.5 billion during the next 100 years.

Community Flood Assistance and Resilience Program

The Community Flood Assistance and Resilience Program (CFAR) is a new element of the Chehalis Basin Strategy. CFAR is being developed to fund a wide range of small-scale projects and actions that will reduce damage from flooding and erosion in communities throughout the Basin.

Initial program phase starts June 1, 2020

The initial CFAR phase runs from June 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. The program is focused on providing renters, business- and land-owners technical assistance. During the initial phase, additional criteria will be developed to manage the program for the next phase. Ecology's Office of Chehalis Basin (OCB) will administer the program.

Examples of structural modifications eligible for CFAR funding



Engineered Flood Vent



Elevated Home



Local Flood Wall

To request assistance

If you would like to request initial technical assistance, need help developing a project, or have general questions about CFAR, please contact:

Chrissy Bailey
 Office of Chehalis Basin
 (360) 407-6781
chrissy.bailey@ecy.wa.gov

Initial Phase: technical assistance and support

We will provide technical assistance to landowners, business owners, and renters as part of the initial phase of the CFAR program. This assistance could range from providing advice on specific flood topics, to providing assistance identifying options for protecting homes or businesses during a flood. For more information about technical support for local and tribal governments, please see Ecology publication 20-06-007.

Technical assistance

Anyone living in or any business operating within the Chehalis Basin is eligible for technical assistance. There is no cost for assistance.

Assistance will be available on an ongoing basis from June 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. After June 2021, the program may be revised based on initial lessons learned and available funding.

Our technical advisors can answer questions and give advice, as well as help identify options for protecting homes, businesses, and community assets. This can include helping:

- Understand flood insurance policies and rates.
- Know how river gauge readings relate to flood levels on your property.
- Identify actions to reduce flood risks.

We will coordinate with our floodplain experts and our consulting team to provide technical assistance to business- and landowners, and renters in the Basin.

Project development and financial assistance

The Office of Chehalis Basin and our technical advisors are prepared to help identify cost-effective measures you can take to help protect buildings during floods. Possible measures may vary from site to site, based on flood risk. Advisors can also help you develop projects in concept that may be eligible for future phases of CFAR funding, including for construction.

How to participate

CFAR will provide financial assistance for approved projects, based on available funds and current priorities. To request assistance, contact our Office of Chehalis Basin. Our advisors will call you to review your situation and discuss options, explain the financial assistance program, help with any necessary documentation and if needed, schedule a site visit to the property.

During the initial phase, we will prioritize requests received before July 17, 2020, for project development and technical assistance.

Requests made after July 17, 2020, may need to wait until we have fulfilled requests made before the mid-July deadline.