

### **What you need to know:**

The creeks in Pleasant Hill are very effective at moving water under normal storm conditions. However, during torrential rains it is possible that they will reach their capacity and flooding may occur, particularly if any of these waterways become obstructed. Being prepared is your best defense against such events.

- **KNOW that the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains help reduce flooding**

Floodplains are a natural component of the City's environment. Understanding and protecting the natural functions of floodplains helps reduce flood damage and protect resources. When flooding spreads out across the floodplain, its energy is dissipated, which results in lower flood flows downstream, reduced erosion of the streambank and channel, deposition of sediments higher in the watershed and improved groundwater recharge. Floodplains are scenic, valued wildlife habitat, and suitable for farming.

- **KNOW if your property is located in an area that is subject to flooding**

A property located within a flood zone does not necessarily have consistent flooding problems. Your property may still be within a flood zone, as designated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), even if you are not aware of any flooding on your property. To determine if your property is in a flood zone, you may visit [www.msc.fema.gov](http://www.msc.fema.gov) and enter your address or call the City's Engineering Services Div. at (925) 671-5264 for a free flood zone determination. If your property is located in an "A" Zone, then it is considered within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), which is an area that has been determined to have the potential for flooding caused by a 100-year storm.

- **KNOW that even if we are in a drought, flooding can happen**

Flooding can occur after several days of heavy rain that saturates the ground. The Contra Costa County Public Works Department has information that can help predict when flooding will likely occur. Visit [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/1578/Flood-Forecast-Information](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/1578/Flood-Forecast-Information) for more information.