



## Rainy Season Ahead: Stormwater and You Prevent Street Flooding

Weston's water bodies and canals were designed to hold and move stormwater. Stormwater is excess rain runoff that is removed from our properties and streets by going down into catch basins and prevents flooding.

A catch basin is a part of a storm drain or sewer system which is designed to trap debris so that it cannot enter the drainage pipes. Catch basins are a large scale version of the traps used in home drains to accomplish a similar function. Unobstructed water flow through these drains and water bodies, especially during storm events, is essential to prevent flooding.



### WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP –

- Keep catch basins free of trash, debris or other obstructions. **NEVER** discard paint, oil or other hazardous waste into the storm drains (this is illegal) and **NEVER** remove the grate – this protects people and pets from falling into the drain and keeps large amounts of debris out of the system which would increase the chance of flooding.
- Maintain swale areas in good condition. Don't change the shape of swales or obstruct the path of water flow.
- Do not be alarmed if swales hold water for 24-36 hours. They are designed to hold water and filter it through into the ground. Mosquitoes do not breed until water ponds for over 72 hours.
- Don't deposit yard waste, grass clippings or debris in waterways, and do not sweep into catch basins.
- Prune tree branches and shrubs that hang out over any waterways.
- Avoid fertilizing your lawn before a storm. *You lose twice*: the fertilizer is washed away, and it washes into the water bodies.



## FLOODING WITHIN HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION MAINTAINED PROPERTIES (HOA's)

Roadways and their drainage systems within private communities are owned and maintained by the community's maintenance association, not the City of Weston.

**Response to and mitigation of flooding that occurs within these private communities is the responsibility of the community's management company.**

In the event that flooding is so severe that a structure may be compromised, property owners may call the City's Department of Public Works. They will investigate the situation and determine if the cause of the flooding is the community's drainage system or the City's storm water management system, and take the appropriate action if any is needed.

The City does not perform work on privately-owned drainage systems, so you are encouraged to **contact your HOA** if your street tends to flood regularly (yet the catch basin is clear) as the drain may need to be cleared professionally.

For Questions or  
Information  
Call the Weston  
Public Works  
Department

**954-385-2600**



**For additional information please visit our website:**  
<http://www.westonfl.org/Residents/Hurricane/Flooding.aspx>