WHAT SHOULD YOU DO AFTER A FLOOD?
► Listen to the radio for emergency instructions.
► Avoid driving if possible.
► Follow established procedure for property damage repairs:
Select a contractor who is licensed in his trade. The County of Trinity requires contractors to be licensed with the Contractor’s State License Board (CSLB). They will be able to produce receipts for their licenses. Only licensed electricians may perform electrical work, only licensed plumbers may perform plumbing work, only licensed gas contractors may work on a gas system, only licensed mechanical contractors may perform heating, ventilation and air conditioning work, and only licensed building contractors may perform building related work. Verify that contractors are licensed before signing or agreeing to any repair contracts. It is also recommended that you verify certification of liability and worker’s compensation insurance. Complaints against licensed contractors may be referred to the CSLB at 1-800-321-CSLB or on the web at www.cslb.ca.gov.

Require your contractors to obtain the proper permits for work being performed. Permits are required for any permanent improvement (including roofing, siding, additions, alterations, etc.) to a structure. Permits are required even if a homeowner is doing the work himself.

Questions about permits or contractor licensing may be addressed to the Trinity County Building Department at (530) 623-1354.

AND FINALLY-
Recognize the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains to help reduce flooding:
Floodplains are a natural component of the Trinity County 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. Poorly planned development in floodplains can lead to streambank erosion, loss of valuable property, increased risk of flooding downstream properties and degradation of water quality.

For more information about flood safety or the NFIP, please note the following:
www.trinitycounty.org
www.floodalert.fema.gov
www.fema.gov/hazards/floods
1-888-FLOOD29

This information is provided by Trinity County and is applicable to properties within the limits of the county. If you reside in a jurisdiction other than Trinity County, contact your regulatory authority for information.
ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A FLOOD IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS BROCHURE BECAUSE YOUR PROPERTY IS IN OR NEAR A SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA.

► History of flooding in Trinity County.

It is critical to remember that Trinity County is located in the Klamath and Coastal Mountain ranges of northwestern California. Heavy winter snows and warm spring rains subject the lower elevations near rivers and streams to flooding. Trinity County has experienced major storm and flood event since 1930 in the following years: 1955, 1964, 1972, 1974, and 1997.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO BEFORE A FLOOD?

► Determine if your property is located in an area subject to flooding.

The following areas have a known potential for flooding:

- Big Bar
- Coffee Creek
- Douglas City
- Hayfork
- Junction City
- Lewiston
- Weaverville

This is not a complete list of areas that are within flood zones, but rather a list of areas with documented flooding problems. A property located within a flood zone does not necessarily have flooding problems. If your neighborhood is not listed, your property may still be within a flood zone, as designated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps. Upon request, the Planning Department at (530) 623-1351, will make free flood zone determinations for properties within the County. FEMA maps are also available in Trinity County Public Libraries. If located in an “AE”, “AO” or “A” Zone, your property is 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. The Planning & Building Departments also maintain elevation certifi-
cicates for many properties within the county that have pulled residential permits which may be available for review.

► Purchase flood insurance on your property.

Flood insurance is not covered by a standard homeowner’s insurance policy. A separate flood insurance policy is required to cover damages incurred by flooding. Coverage is available for the building itself as well as for the contents of the building. The County of Trinity participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that makes available federally backed flood insurance for all structures, whether or not they are located within the floodplain. Note that there is a 30-day waiting period before coverage goes into effect. More than 25 percent of NFIP claims are filed by properties located outside the 100-year floodplain. Contact your insurance agency for more information. Flood insurance information is also available in Trinity County Public Libraries.

► Meet permitting requirements. All development within the county requires a permit. Always check and fulfill permitting requirements with the Building Dept. before you build on, alter, fill, or re-grade on any portion of your property and/or within any easement or right-of-way. Also, contact the County of Trinity Engineers to determine if a structure is located in a flood zone and to fulfill the NFIP requirements. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requires that if the cost of reconstruction, additions, or other improvements to a building equals or exceeds 50% of the building’s market value, then the building must meet the same construction requirements as a new building. Substantially damaged buildings must also be brought up to the same standards. For example, a residence damaged so that the cost of repairs equals or exceeds 50% of the building’s value before it was damaged must be elevated above the base flood elevation. Please contact the Building Dept. at (530) 623-1354 for more information.

Contact the County Dept. of Transportation at (530) 623-1365.

► Meet improvement requirements. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requires that if the cost of construction, additions, or other improvements to a building equals or exceeds 50% of the building’s market value, then the building must meet the same construction requirements as a new building. Substantially damaged buildings must also be brought up to the same standards. For example, a residence damaged so that the cost of repairs equals or exceeds 50% of the building’s value before it was damaged must be elevated above the base flood elevation. Please contact the Building Dept. at (530) 623-1354 for more information.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO DURING A FLOOD?

► Keep an emergency supply. Non-perishable food, water, batteries, flashlights, a manual can opener, and battery operated radio should be kept available.

► Tune-in to local commercial radio or television stations, or NOAA Weather Radio for Watch and Warning Bulletins and any corresponding emergency instructions. If evacuations are called for, it is imperative that you follow instructions in the time frame noted.

Questions regarding emergency procedures may be addressed to the Trinity County Sheriff Dept. at (530) 623-2611.

► If dangerous flooding conditions are imminent, avoid driving a vehicle if possible. Do not attempt to drive or wade through deep pockets of water or running waters. Unstable banks should be avoided.

► Develop an evacuation plan for your family and pets.

► Avoid low-lying areas. Seek shelter in the highest areas possible.

T.C. Planning Department
Ph: 530-623-1351, Fax: 530-623-1353
61 Airport Road, PO Box 2819
Weaverville, CA 96093