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## KNOW YOUR FLOOD HAZARD

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You may be in A **SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA**. Sixty percent (60%) of the incorporated area of the City of Central is located within the Special Flood Hazard Area. Inundations are caused by backwater flooding from the Amite and Comite Rivers and their respective tributaries. The major floods occurred in 1965, 1971, 1989, 2001, 2002, 2005, 2008, and 2012.

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## PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND PROPERTY FROM FLOODING

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**Buy flood insurance.** Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover Flood damages; a separate flood insurance policy is needed. Contact your property insurance agent to find the right policy for you. **GET READY** before the next flood.

**Do not walk or drive through flood waters.** Currents are deceptive. Six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. Do not drive around barriers, as roads or bridges may be washed-out. Preparing for an emergency can reduce the possibility of personal injury, loss of life and damage to property. Know your flood warnings and signals, create an emergency plan and prepare a disaster supply kit. In the event of a flood, refer to your local television or radio for emergency broadcasts; or, contact EBR Parish office of Emergency Preparedness at (225) 389-2100.

**Talk to us about protecting your house or business.** You can protect your home or business from drainage and flooding problems by modifying your building to minimize flood damage. Where flooding is shallow, measures such as small floodwalls, and flood proofing the wall or utilities can be relatively inexpensive. Where flooding is deep, you may need to elevate your building. For more information on flood proofing your building, there are publications in the EBR Public Libraries.

**Check with the Central Municipal Services before you build, alter, regrade or fill your property.** A permit is needed to ensure that a project is compliant with all regulations. These regulations are designed to protect your property from flood damage and to make sure you don't cause a drainage problem for neighbors. A Copy of Elevation Certificates for newly built structures can be obtained by the respective structure owner by calling at (225) 262-5000.

**Don't pour oil grease, pesticides or other pollutants down storm drains or into the ditches and streams.** Our streams and wetlands help moderate flooding and are habitat for fish and other wildlife that provides us with recreation or food. Let's protect them and their homes. The city has a drainage maintenance program that can remove blockages from a drainage ditch or stream, such as downed trees and branches.

**Check before you buy.** Before you commit yourself to buying property, do the following: Ask the real estate agent or your city floodplain management office if it is in the flood zone and requires flood insurance; ask the seller or neighbors if it has ever flooded or if it is subject to other hazards, such as sewer backups or subsidence. Talk to the building department about the building and zoning regulations. In accordance with City's Ordinance. No. 2006-11, dated 1-24-2006, every transfer of land or building is required to provide a flood hazard disclosure statement to prospective buyers.

For more information contact the **City of Central's Floodplain Administrator at (225) 262-5000.**

Useful web sites are: [www.louisianafloods.org](http://www.louisianafloods.org)  
[www.floodhelp.uno.edu](http://www.floodhelp.uno.edu)

[www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)  
[www.maps.lsuagcenter.com/floodmaps](http://www.maps.lsuagcenter.com/floodmaps).