July 20, 2020

Dear Business Owner:

The Bighorn Fire has increased the risk of flooding at the location of your business. Flash floods and mudflows may cause flooding where it would not normally be expected. This increased risk could exist for several years. You are receiving this notice because the Pima County Regional Flood Control District (District) has conducted a post-fire flood study showing that your business may be at increased risk of flooding. The District wants you to be aware of the increased risk of flooding and take appropriate steps to mitigate your risk.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Sign up for MyAlerts. The Pima County Office of Emergency Management’s MyAlerts www.myalerts.pima.gov system allows the District to provide near real-time flood alerts to the public. It is the most effective way for the County to notify residents about likely or eminent flood events. Provide the address of your business and your contact information to receive messages related to the location of your business. Find additional information about the MyAlerts Flood Alert Messaging webpage at www.pima.gov/floodalerts.

Floods are dynamic and this warning system will not be perfect, but is our attempt to provide you an opportunity to protect your business, employees and customers. It is possible that properties that get a warning will not flood, and properties that were not warned are impacted.

Get flood insurance. Normally, there is a 30-day waiting period from the time that flood insurance is purchased to when it becomes effective. When the risk of flooding increases due to wildfires that occur on federal land, the National Flood Insurance Program provides an exception should your structure get flooded within the 30-day waiting period. Your insurance adjuster will apply for the exception as necessary (see attached information sheet). The District recommends that you acquire flood insurance. If you don’t own your building, coverage is available for just the building’s contents. You may be surprised how inexpensive it is, so please contact your insurance agent today.

Protect your structure(s). Placing sandbags in doorways or the ability to deploy them quickly is a low-cost method that may be sufficient to prevent water from entering your business. Pima County and the Town of Oro Valley are providing a limited number of sandbags for impacted properties at the following locations:

- Department of Transportation facility at 1313 S. Mission Road (724-6410);
- Brandi Fenton Memorial Park in the northwest dirt parking lot;
- South side of Ina Road just east of Pima Canyon Drive;
- In Catalina at the northwest corner of Golder Ranch Drive and Twin Lakes Drive;
- In Summerhaven on Carter Canyon Road at the north side of Snyder Road and Lason Lane; and
- The Town of Oro Valley is providing sandbags at Naranja Park in the Christmas tree drop off lot located just north of the Archery Range along the entry drive.

Create an Emergency Response Plan. Details and guidance are available at:

Floods Follow Fires – www.pima.gov/FloodsFollowFires/
Be Flood Safe – www.pima.gov/BeFloodSafe/

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