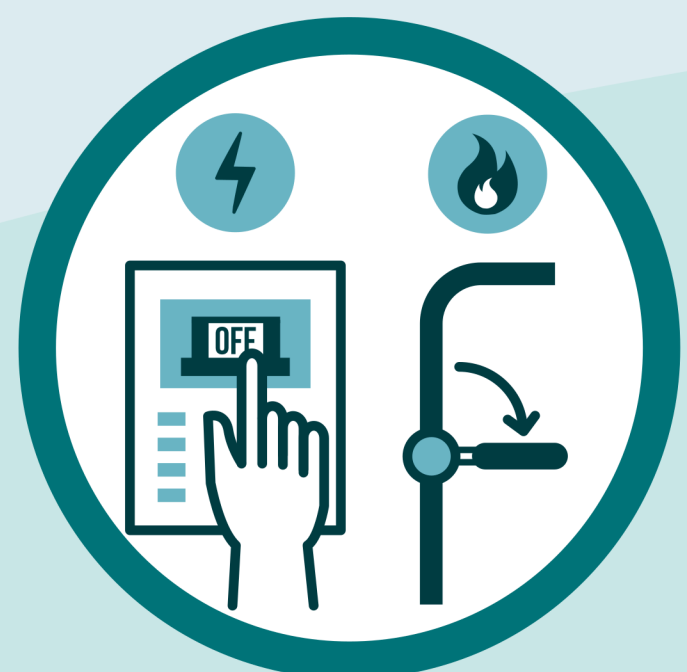


Be Flood Ready

Flooding along the Fraser River can happen quickly during seasonal freshet*. If you live in a floodplain, plan ahead to protect your home and family.



During Flooding

- Stay away from floodwater
- Never drive through water or around barricades
- Follow directions from public safety officials
- Evacuate immediately if told to do so
- Watch City channels for updates and sandbag locations



After Flooding

- Stay clear of floodwater and hazards
- Check for damage, gas leaks, and downed power lines
- Contact your insurance company
- Use protective gear during cleanup



Make A Plan

More Resources

MapleRidge.ca/EmergencyReadiness

Report a Concern:

MapleRidge.ca/Report or 604-463-9581

For Your Family



For Your Pets



For Your Home



* Freshet is a sudden overflowing or rise in the level of a stream or river, typically caused by heavy rainfall or the rapid melting of snow and ice during the spring.

What is a Floodplain Bylaw?

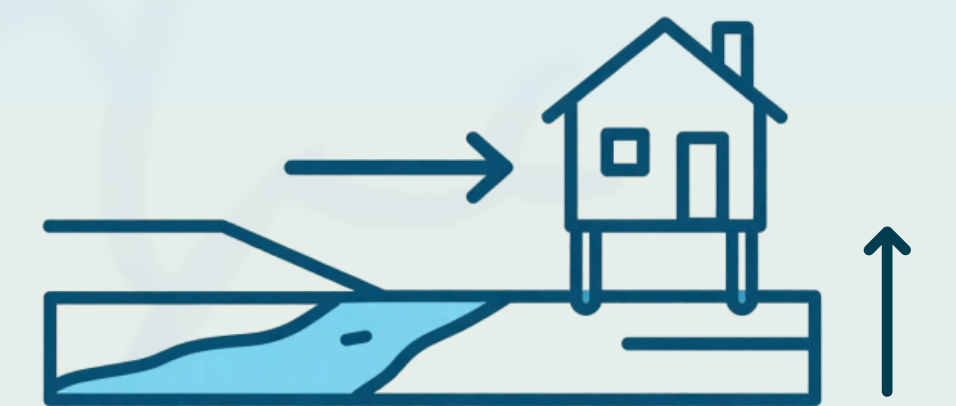


Identify areas at risk of flooding

- Engineering models made into maps showing depths and extents of flooding.
- Community, City staff, and First Nations share knowledge of flooding.

Establish safe building elevations and setbacks

- Defines how high to build (Flood Construction Levels) and how far to set back from rivers and creeks.
- Mapping will include the minimum FCLs for the Fraser River and parts of the Alouette River, and other systems to follow in 2027.



Aligns with best practices and eligibility for provincial funding



- Aligns with provincial guidance, including how projects must assess and manage flood risk, plus rules for fill, erosion, and drainage.
- In 2027, Province is updating Emergency and Disaster Management Act, requiring local governments to have proactive planning to reduce hazard risks. By aligning with these requirements, we maintain eligibility for grant funding.

Did you know?

Since 2004, British Columbia's local governments — not the Province — designate flood hazard areas and set flood construction levels, under the Local Government Act and the Province's Flood Hazard Area Land Use Management Guidelines. That responsibility now rests with the City and this bylaw is how Maple Ridge meets it.

How Can We Protect from Floods?



Protective berms and dikes



Elevating construction above flood level



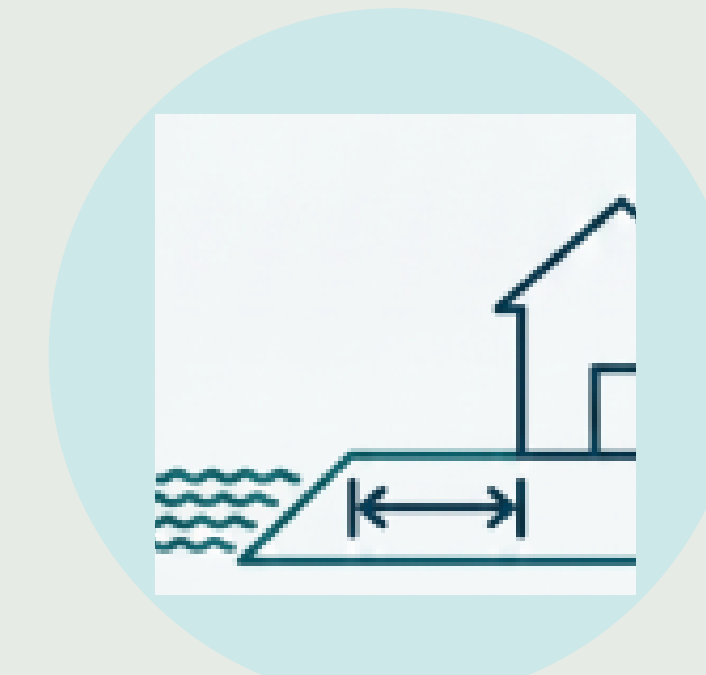
Raised, armoured foundations to protect from debris flows



Rip-rap protection of river banks to prevent erosion



Protecting and enhancing with natural infrastructure



Setback requirements from waterways and slopes

Consistent Requirements?

A Policy Approach

A Floodplain Bylaw defines where the floodplain is and requirements for building and managing lands to improve life safety during flood events.

What it means for you

Clearer, more consistent rules for everyone. New buildings designed to be flood-resilient, formal recognition of green infrastructure, and stronger protection for the neighbourhoods already here.

A bylaw doesn't stop floods.

It makes sure that what we build can live with water and keeps tomorrow's risk from growing.

Flooding in Maple Ridge

Four ways we flood

Rain Flood

Heavy rain overwhelms storm drains and surfaces



Sudden heavy rain and atmospheric rivers overwhelm storm drains and paved areas, ponding on streets and yards far from rivers. Water can rise fast.

River Flood

When river water exceeds the banks



The Fraser and the North and South Alouette Rivers rise with spring snowmelt (the freshet) and fall storms, like atmospheric rivers.

Low-lying areas receive some protection from dikes, pump stations, and flood boxes.

Creek & Slope

Fast water, mud, and debris rush of the hills, overflowing a creek



Steep creeks such as Kanaka Creek can carry fast water, sediment, and debris onto the alluvial fans below.

Heavy rain on saturated slopes without trees can trigger landslides and debris flows.

Groundwater

Water that rises from below ground



Water can rise from below ground, including from dike seepage.

Risk depends on the height of the seasonal water table, the presence and confinement of aquifers, how close the land is to a watercourse, and the soil type and how freely it drains.

Floods of Maple Ridge



Designer Flood?

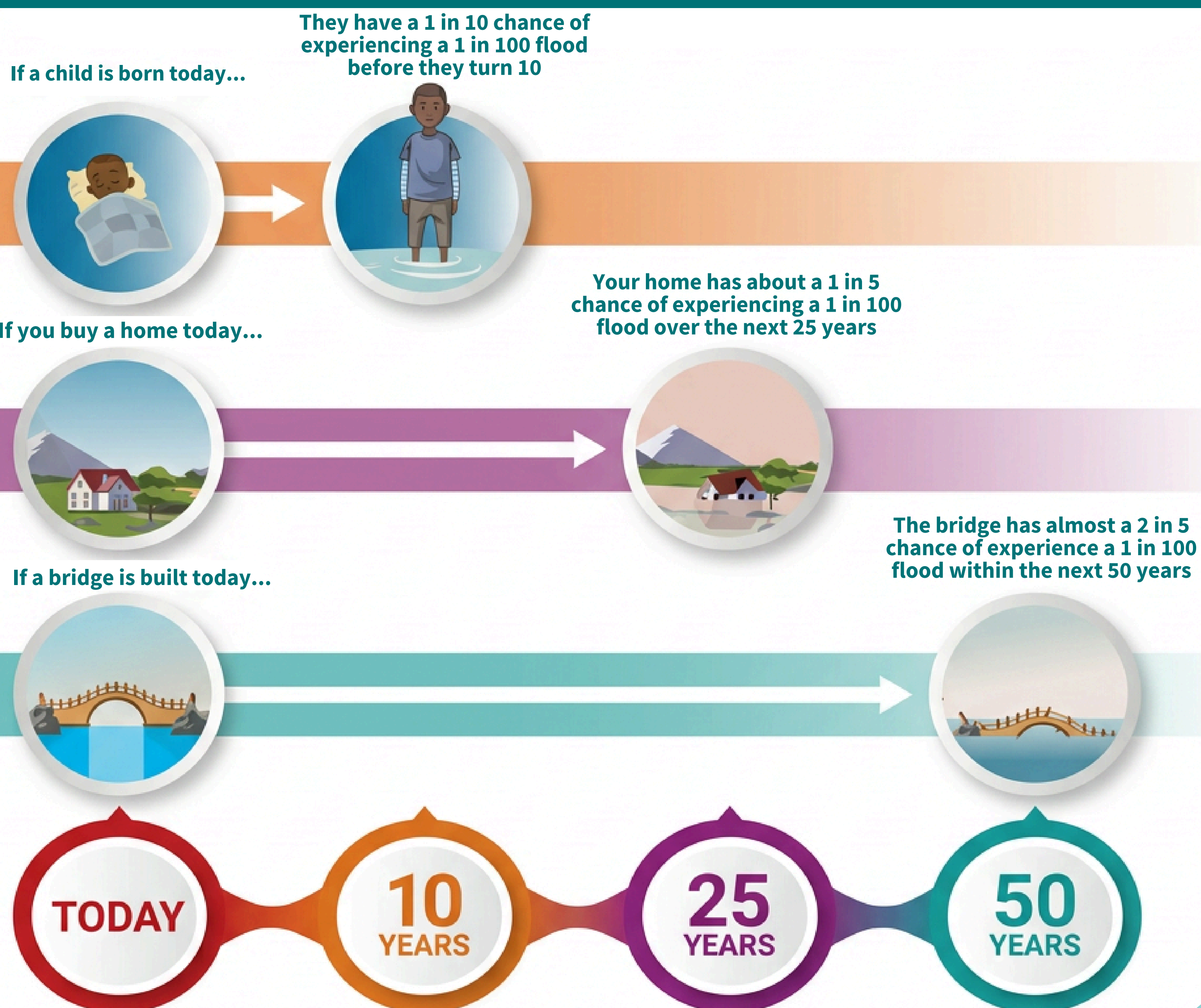
Nope, no runway here. They're just the ones we get ready for!

“Design floods” are the big floods we plan for so people stay safe and buildings stay strong.

Fraser River: 1 in 500 year (0.2% chance every year)

Alouette Rivers: 1 in 200 year (0.5% chance every year)

Does Flooding Impact Me? What a 1-in-100 flood really means


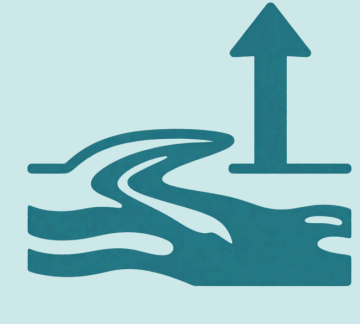
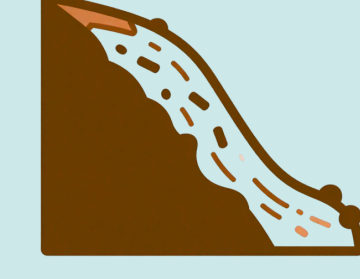
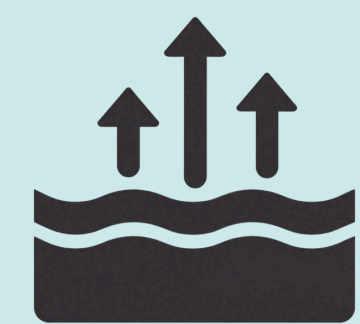
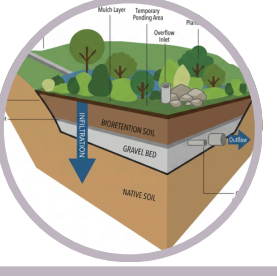



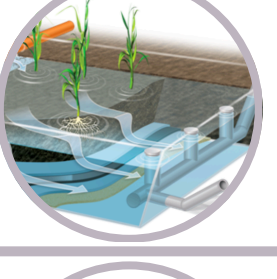

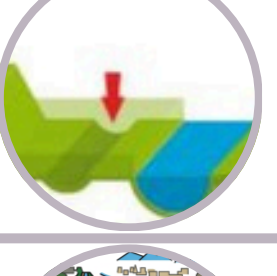



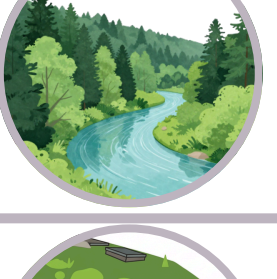
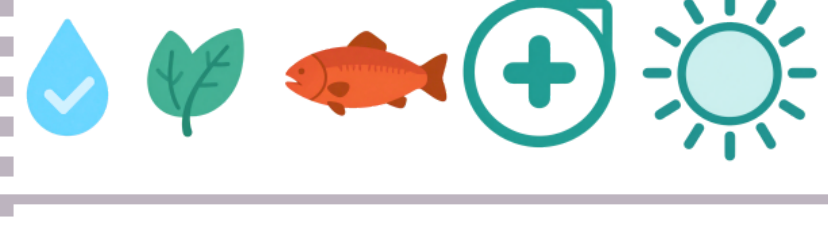
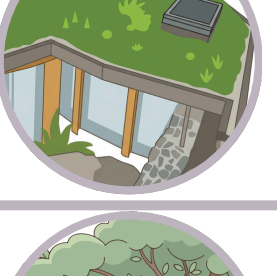



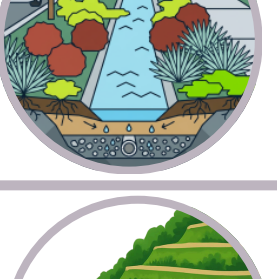

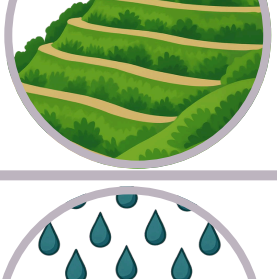

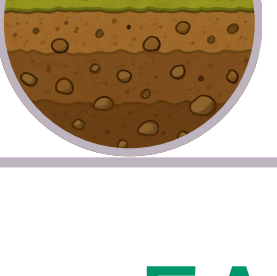



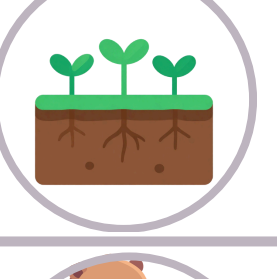


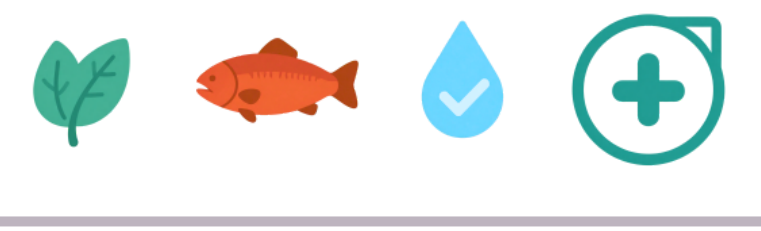
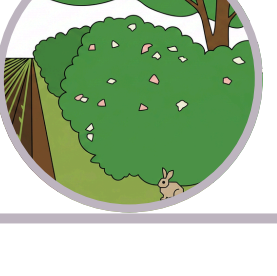
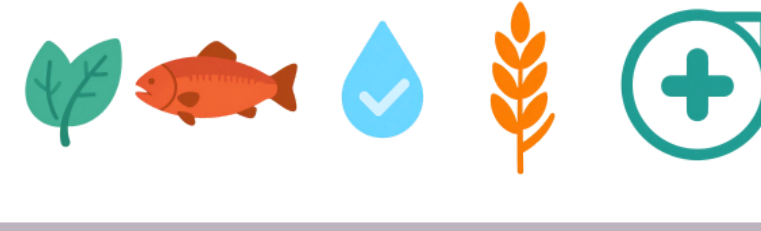


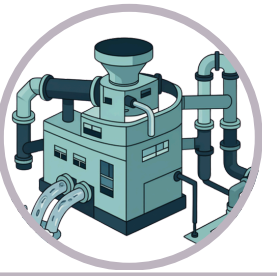

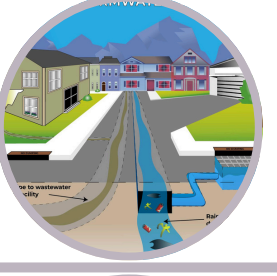





The Costs of Floods

Floods are the most expensive and frequent hazard in Maple Ridge

- **Community and Livelihood:** Displacement, damage to homes and daily life, health and mortality risks.
- **Environmental and Agricultural:** Loss of crops and livestock, contaminated water and harm to ecosystems.
- **Economic and Infrastructure:** Business disruption, damage to roads, utilities and services.

How much does each flood tool help?

THE TOOL	 Rain	 River	 Creek & Slope	 Groundwater	BENEFITS/TRADE-OFFS
NATURE BASED					
 Rain Gardens & Bioretention	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Wetlands (natural & revived)	3 droplets	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Constructed Wetlands & Ponds	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Room for the River	2 droplets	3 droplets	3 droplets	2 droplets	
 Reshaped Streams & Side Channels	2 droplets	3 droplets	3 droplets	2 droplets	
 Forests & Riparian Trees	3 droplets	2 droplets	3 droplets	2 droplets	
 Green Roofs & Rain-Smart Buildings	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Parks & Open Green Space	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Green Streets & Corridors	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Vegetated Slopes & Terraces	2 droplets	2 droplets	3 droplets	2 droplets	
 Permeable Ground & Urban Farms	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
FARM & FIELD					
 Washlands & Floodplain Farmland Storage	2 droplets	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Cover Crops & Healthy Soils	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Beaver Dams & Farm Ponds	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Hedgerows, Buffers, & Field Margins	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
GREY / ENGINEERED					
 Dikes & Floodwalls	2 droplets	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Pump Stations	2 droplets	3 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Storm Mains, Culverts, & Grey Drainage	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	2 droplets	
 Debris Basins & Channel Works	2 droplets	2 droplets	3 droplets	2 droplets	

THE MULTI-TASKERS
Notice which tools earn droplets across several flood types *and* have the most co-benefits?

3 droplets
Strong

2 droplets
Good

1 droplet
Some

0 droplets
Not its job

 Trade-off (grey tools)

 **Habitat & biodiversity**

 **Wellbeing & mobility**

 **Salmon & fish passage**

 **Carbon storage**

 **Clean water**

 **Food security**

 **Shade & cooling**