

CITY CONNECTIONS

Weekly Municipal Column

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The City of
Brevard
North Carolina

November 11, 2021

FLOOD INSURANCE A VALUABLE RESOURCE IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Flooding in Western North Carolina is not uncommon. Only 1 percent of structures in Transylvania, Buncombe and Haywood counties are covered by flood insurance policies issued by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). After Tropical Storm Fred, more than 200 policyholders filed flood claims with a total payout of more than \$9.5 million to date.

Property owners can protect themselves from financial losses by having a flood insurance policy through the NFIP. Flood insurance coverage is available regardless of federal disaster declarations. Insurance for contents is also available to renters. There is a 30-day waiting period before new policies go into effect, so don't wait to obtain a policy.

The City of Brevard participates in the NFIP, so residents can purchase a flood insurance policy, no matter their flood risk.

Coverage is available for residential and commercial buildings and the contents therein:

- Up to \$250,000 in building coverage and up to \$100,000 in contents coverage for single-to-four family residential structures.
- Up to \$500,000 in building coverage and up to \$100,000 in contents coverage for five-or-more family residential structures. Learn more at fema.gov
- Up to \$500,000 in building coverage and up to \$500,000 in contents coverage for businesses.

How to buy:

Contact your insurance company or agent. In addition to the NFIP, flood insurance is also available from some private insurance providers.

For an agent referral, call 800-427-4661 or visit

<https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance>.