



Board of County Commissioners

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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lewis County, Washington – Dec. 10, 2025

County opens damage assessment hotline for flood-affected residents

CHEHALIS – Lewis County has established a dedicated damage assessment hotline for residents whose homes or properties were affected by recent flooding.

Flood-impacted community members are asked to call **360-740-2600** and leave a message that includes **your first and last name, your phone number and the address of the damaged site**. Lewis County will return your call within **two business days**.

This information will help county staff conduct preliminary damage assessments and connect residents with potential recovery assistance. Lewis County is actively working to collect resources that will help you as you begin the recovery process.

Many areas remain significantly impacted. If you are returning home, please exercise great care and be aware of hazards such as unstable ground, debris, contaminated water and damaged structures.

Health and safety reminders for returning home

>> Water safety

- Do not drink from private wells that may have been flooded. Use bottled water until your well has been tested and cleared.
- Assume all floodwater is contaminated. Avoid direct contact when possible.
- If your water system has been impacted, disinfect tap water before use by boiling for one minute.

>> Septic system safety

- Do not use your septic system if the drainfield or area around the tank is still saturated.
- Reduce water use in the home until the system has time to recover.

Ryan Barrett
County Manager

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First District

Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM
Second District

Scott Brummer
Third District

Rieva Lester
Clerk of the Board

- If sewage backs up into your home, keep people and pets away from the affected area and begin cleanup as soon as it is safe.

>> Disinfecting your home

- Wear gloves, boots and eye protection while cleaning.
- Remove all items soaked by floodwater. Porous items such as carpet, insulation and upholstered furniture should be discarded.
- Wash hard surfaces with soap and clean water, then disinfect with a bleach solution (1 cup of bleach to 5 gallons of water).
- Allow all areas to fully dry before starting repairs.

Lewis County thanks residents for their patience and resilience during this event. For more information about returning home safely, continue checking the December 2025 Flood Event webpage at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/departments/emergency-management/december-2025-flood-event>. Staff will continue to add documents and links to resources to assist you in your recovery efforts.

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