



WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVE A BEAVER ISSUE?

Use our beaver management decision flowchart to help you decide what actions to take

1

Are beavers impacting one or more properties?

MORE THAN ONE. GO TO 2.

ONLY ONE - MINE. GO TO 3.

4

What impact are beavers having on your property?

BEAVER DAM that may be a hazard to downstream properties. Contact Drainage Complaint line in King County's Stormwater Services at 206-477-4811.

FISH PASSAGE. Go to the Beaver [FAQ](#) page on King County's Beaver Management Program website at kingcounty.gov/beavers.

TREE AND OTHER VEGETATION DAMAGE. Refer to the Beaver Management [Tools Matrix](#), or for more detailed information go to Section 2.2 of the Beaver Management [Technical Paper #1: Beaver Management Tools Literature Review](#).

FLOOD/WATER RELATED. GO TO 5.

7

What type of property is the flooding impacting?

FLOODING IS COVERING ROADS. Contact King County Roads Division at 206-477-8100. For more options, GO TO 8.

FLOODING IS ENTERING MY HOME OR AG LANDS.

► **Within unincorporated King County?** Contact King County's Drainage Complaint line at 206-477-4811.

► **Inside city limits?** Go to kingcounty.gov/services/environment/water-and-land/stormwater/problem-investigation-line to find out who can help.

For more information, GO TO 8.

2

Are property owners private or public?

PRIVATE. All landowners need to agree about the problem and desired outcome before proceeding. Once everyone is in agreement, GO TO 3.

PUBLIC. Beaver-related flooding/tree damage is on public property. Contact the jurisdiction where the beavers are located. Need help understanding options for beaver management? GO TO 3.

5

Flooding may occur in areas that also coincidentally have beaver activity. Have you had anyone verify that a beaver dam is causing the flooding?

NO. Have site evaluated by King County Stormwater Services. Call 206-477-4811.

YES, the beaver dam is definitely causing flooding. GO TO 6.

8

Are beavers plugging a culvert or building free-standing dams away from culverts?

PLUGGING CULVERTS. Culvert fencing may help. Refer to the Beaver Management [Tools Matrix](#), or Section 2.3.1 of the Beaver Management [Technical Paper #1: Beaver Management Tools Literature Review](#) for more information. Note that state and county permits may be required.

FREE-STANDING DAMS AWAY FROM CULVERTS. Pond levelers may help. Refer to Section 2.3.2 in the Beaver Management [Technical Paper #1: Beaver Management Tools Literature Review](#) for more information. Note that state and county permits may be required.

3

Can you live with beavers as long as they don't damage trees or cause flooding?

YES, but I would like more information. Go to the King County Beaver Management Program [problems and solutions](#) page at kingcounty.gov/beavers.

NO. GO TO 4.

6

Can you live with beavers if there is no flooding?

YES, beavers can stay if we can find a way to control flooding. GO TO 7.

NO, I would like to have the beavers trapped/removed. GO TO 9.

9

Do you prefer beavers to be live-trapped and relocated? Note that trapping is considered a temporary solution.

YES, I prefer relocation to lethal trapping. Opportunities for beaver relocation are limited. Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife is working out the permitting process. At present, the [Tulalip Beaver Project](#) is the only group doing beaver relocation in Western Washington.

NO, relocation is not an option. Hire a trapper. For more information go to the King County Beaver Management Program Resources page at kingcounty.gov/beavers.



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division