

DRAINAGE RESPONSIBILITIES

Public Works Agency
Transportation Department
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009-1620



NATURAL DRAINAGE FLOW

In general, drainage flow is the ability for water to flow from higher elevation to lower elevation along a natural drainage path or through a drainage structure that will then drain to a river and/or stream, which eventually drains to a larger body of water. Natural drainage flow cannot be blocked or diverted, nor may the flow be increased from one property to another. The natural flow of surface water also cannot be diverted.

FLOODING WITHIN PRIVATE PROPERTY

If flooding occurs within private property the property owner should determine the cause. If the cause might be due to a plugged drainage structure that is within the public road road-right-of-way (ROW), contact the PWATD Operations and Maintenance Division. It is suggested to take photos and/or video to document the flooding. If the flooding was a result of the adjacent property owner(s) changing natural drainage flow, contact the property owner. The PWATD has no jurisdiction over, nor the authority to resolve this matter.

DRAINAGE STRUCTURES MAINTAINED BY THE PWATD

All drainage structures that are within Public road ROW that convey drainage flow either under, over, or adjacent to the road are maintained by the PWATD. Larger flood-control facilities are maintained by the Watershed Protection District. Drainage structures are maintained on a routine basis and occasionally more frequently during rain storm events to minimize the impact of flooding.

DRAINAGE STRUCTURES WITHIN PRIVATE PROPERTY

It is the property owner(s) responsibility to maintain drainage structures within their property. Even when a portion of the drainage structure is in public road ROW, it is the property owner's responsibility to maintain drainage structure within their property, unless there is a drainage easement accepted by the Board of Supervisors.

REQUESTS AND INQUIRIES

- ❖ PWATD Operations and Maintenance Division: (805) 672-2131.
- ❖ Watershed Protection District Operations and Maintenance Division: (805) 654-2001.