



# Museum Fire Flood Projects

March 21, 2023

Welcome to the City of Flagstaff's Museum Fire Flood Projects eNews. Please email [info@museumfloodprojects.com](mailto:info@museumfloodprojects.com) with any questions. These eNews will be released regularly to provide updates on all the City's Museum Fire Flood Projects.

## BACKGROUND

On July 21, 2019, the Museum Fire broke out in the Dry Lake Hills area just north of Flagstaff within the Coconino National Forest. The fire ultimately charred 1,961 acres, including a significant portion of the Spruce Wash Watershed. Flood modeling subsequently showed potential flood risk to neighborhoods in Coconino County and the City of Flagstaff. Both the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County Flood Control District immediately took extensive measures and precautions to mitigate damage from flood events.

Throughout the summer of 2021, unprecedented rain events impacted the Museum Fire burn scar and caused multiple rounds of flash flooding in Flagstaff neighborhoods. The City of Flagstaff continues to collaborate with both the public and private partners to lessen the impact of flooding in the affected Flagstaff neighborhoods.

## PREPARATION FOR THE 2023 MONSOON SEASON

The City of Flagstaff has been working throughout the winter to advance flood mitigation projects and prepare for the 2023 monsoon season. Below is a list of efforts that are currently underway, as well as efforts that are planned for the spring of 2023.

- Community meetings for both the Spruce Wash (Museum flood area) and the Schultz Creek Watershed (Pipeline West flood area) will be held in late April or early May to provide an opportunity for residents to receive updates and ask questions.
- An updated flood risk assessment map for the Schultz Creek Watershed is being developed by JE Fuller and will be released to residents prior to the 2023 monsoon season. An updated flood risk assessment map for the Spruce Wash was sent out in February and can be viewed [here](#). The updated maps will also be available during the community meetings so that residents can review the maps with engineers.
- All open channels and drains in the affected areas will be assessed and cleared as soon as the snowpack has decreased to the point where staff can access manholes and channels. This will likely occur in late April or early May.
- In May, residents will be able to request property-specific engineering assessments of their short-term mitigations (such as sandbags and other barriers), so that any changes can be completed before the start of the monsoon season.
- The City's stockpile of sandbags and sandbag materials will be made available to residents to repair damaged or broken sandbags prior to monsoon season. Sandbags that are undamaged will not need to be replaced. Further information on the refresh of short-term mitigations will also be shared during the spring community meetings.
- The design of infrastructure improvements is currently underway for both the Spruce Wash and the Schultz Creek Watershed areas. Project-specific updates will be shared as they become available.

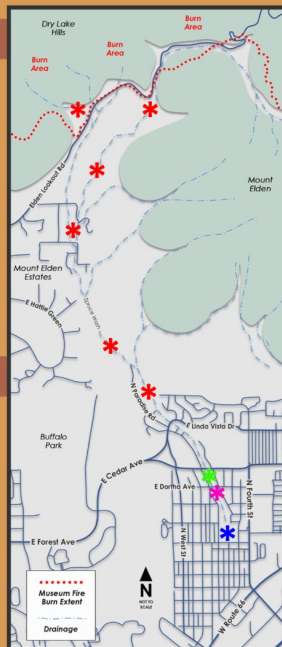
Stay tuned for additional updates on monsoon preparation and an invitation to the community meetings.

## City of Flagstaff working to advance flood mitigation projects & prepare for the 2023 monsoon season

Stay tuned for additional updates on monsoon preparation & an invitation to the community meetings



CITY OF FLAGSTAFF



## Stay Connected

### Electronic Newsletters

The City will send out electronic newsletters (such as these) on a regular basis as these projects progress. To receive eNewsletters, as well as notifications of Museum Flood Project updates scheduled at City Council meetings, send a request to: [info@museumfloodprojects.com](mailto:info@museumfloodprojects.com).

### Additional questions?

Please email: [info@museumfloodprojects.com](mailto:info@museumfloodprojects.com)  
Sarah Langley  
Public Affairs Director  
(928) 853-5596  
City of Flagstaff

## Key Flood Projects

Key projects are identified by the corresponding colored asterisk on the map to the left:

- \* Alluvial Fan Restoration and Sediment Reduction (Led by the Coconino County Flood Control District)
- \* Spruce Wash Channel Improvements Project (Cedar Avenue to Dortha Avenue)
- \* Spruce Wash Channel Improvements Project (Dortha Avenue Inlet)
- \* Killip School Regional Detention Basins Project

[Click here to view a larger version of this map.](#)



For more information on these projects and important resources, visit [museumfloodprojects.com](http://museumfloodprojects.com)