



# Working Together, We Can Reduce Flood Risk.

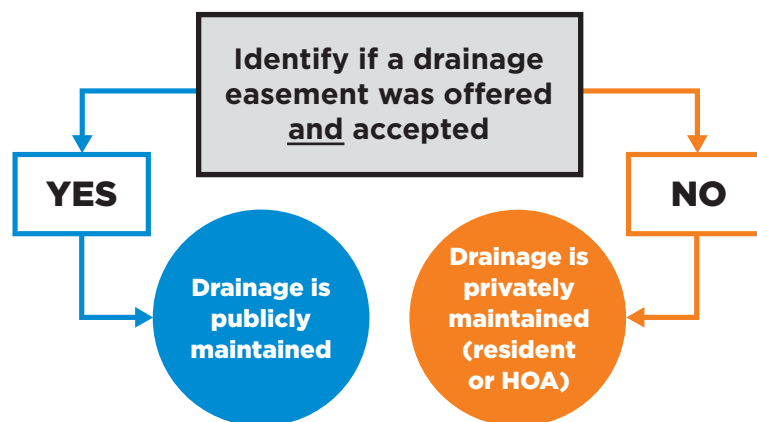
Drainage systems such as ditches, channels, and culverts located throughout the County of San Diego are designed to reduce flooding of property and keep public roads safe and drivable by moving excess stormwater to nearby creeks, rivers, and the ocean. Accumulated sediment, vegetation and debris in a drainage system can quickly cause stormwater to back up, leading to flooding. Therefore, regular maintenance is essential to ensure optimal functioning.

**Depending on their location, drainage systems may be either publicly maintained or maintained by a private property owner such as a resident or a Homeowners Association (HOA). The County's Department of Public Works (DPW)** continually mobilizes its field maintenance crews to clear out County-maintained drainage systems located in the unincorporated areas of the County. Incorporated cities maintain the public drainage systems in their jurisdictions. Publicly maintained drainage systems are typically located within roads and sidewalks but there can be exceptions. The information included on this flyer is intended to help determine whether maintenance of drainage systems is the responsibility of a private property owner or a public agency.

## What can you do?

- 1** Property owners are advised to inspect and clean private drainage systems before each rainy season (Oct.-Apr.) and after storm events to minimize the risk of flooding.
- 2** Work with your neighbors and/or HOA to clean private drainage systems in your area.

## How to determine if a drainage feature is Public or Private:



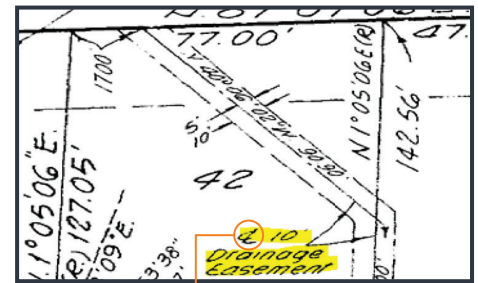
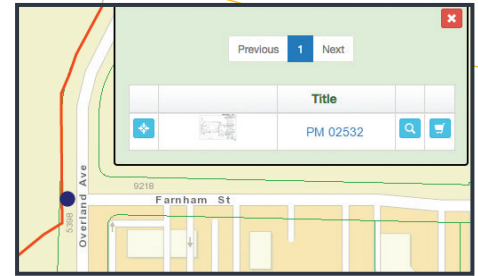
**Ways to determine who is responsible.** →

## Ways for property owners to determine responsibility.

### Search the Online Survey Records System

The County maintains an online tool which allows residents to access property plans and drawings. Visit [srs.sandiegocounty.gov](https://srs.sandiegocounty.gov) and click on the Tipsheet, or call (858) 694-3253 for more information on how to use the Survey Records System.

Check the Title page of the Map or Plan to **verify that the easement has been accepted by the County**. It is possible that a drainage easement is shown on the map but is not accepted by the County. If the title page of the record states the easement is **REJECTED**, the property owner is responsible for maintenance of the system. (There is a fee to download pages of the maps and plans.)



Typical acceptance language:	Typical rejection language:
<p>I, _____, CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CERTIFY THAT SAID BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HAS APPROVED THIS MAP, HAS ACCEPTED ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC,</p> <p>FOR USE AS STREETS, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO EXTEND AND MAINTAIN DRAINAGE FACILITIES, EXCAVATION AND EMBANKMENT SLOPES BEYOND THE LIMITS OF SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY, ALL AS DEDICATED ON SAID MAP AND ACCEPTANCE INTO THE MAINTAINED SYSTEM IS SUBJECT TO IMPROVEMENT, AND HAS ACCEPTED ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY, THE DRAINAGE EASEMENTS AND THE EASEMENTS FOR PEDESTRIAN AND EQUESTRIAN TRAIL PURPOSES, ALL AS DEDICATED ON SAID MAP, AND HAS ACCEPTED ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY, THE CLEAR SPACE EASEMENT, ALL AS GRANTED ON SAID MAP.</p>	<p>I, _____, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego, hereby certify that said Board of Supervisors has approved this map; has accepted on behalf of the public _____ and the sewer easements, as dedicated on said map, and has <b>rejected</b> on behalf of the public the drainage easements offered for dedication on said map. (NOTE: Section 11616 of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California provides that a rejected offer of dedication shall remain open and subject to future acceptance by the County.)</p> <p>Dated <u>April 26</u>, 1960 _____, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors</p> <p>By _____ Deputy</p>

### Visit the County Operations Center

5510 Overland Ave., San Diego, CA - 2nd Floor Cartographic Services. You can research records at the County offices and get assistance. There is a fee to print copies of maps and plans.

## Optional tools to assist in your research.

### Check Your Title Report

Your Title Report was included with your paperwork when you purchased your property. It shows any existing easements on the property at the time of purchase. If you need a new report, any Title company can create one. There may be a fee to generate a new report. The following is an example of what a County easement would look like on a Title Report:

**"...an easement for drainage purposes recorded xx date, as Book\_, Page\_ of Official Records in favor of the County of San Diego over a strip of land \_ feet wide lying within Section\_..."**

### Hire an Engineer or Surveyor to Perform the Research

Check with trade associations such as the Land Surveyors Association or the Better Business Bureau to find a qualified professional engineer or land surveyor.

## Thank you for doing your part to prevent flooding.

For questions on County-maintained drainage, or to report County-maintained drainage features in need of maintenance, please use one of the following resources:

### Online Service Request Form

[www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/roads/Roads\\_Service\\_Request](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/roads/Roads_Service_Request)

### Tell Us Now App

[www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dmpr/gfx/appcenter/index.html](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dmpr/gfx/appcenter/index.html)

Call (858) 694-2212

