

DEFINITIONS & CONTACTS

CHANNEL is defined as an elongated open depression in which water may or does flow.

CONDUIT is defined as a general term for any channel intended for the conveyance of water whether open or closed; any container for flowing water.

DITCH is defined as an artificial channel usually distinguished from a canal by its smaller size.

DRAINAGE is defined as:

- a. Process of removing surplus ground or surface water by artificial means;
- b. The manner in which the waters of an area are removed.
- c. The area from which waters are drained: a drainage basin.

PERSON means any person, firm, partnership or corporation.

Flood Management Division
(209) 468-3060.

Channel Maintenance Division
(209) 468-9698

Public Services Division
(209) 468-3057

State Reclamation Board
(916) 574-0681

State Fish and Game
(916) 358-2900

DO I NEED AN ENCROACHMENT PERMIT?

Any time a levee, embankment, channel, dam, reservoir, rain or stream gauge, telephone line, piling, or any other stream protection work constructed by the County or any other drainage district organized under the State of California is modified a written permit is required from one of the following sources:

Channels covered by California Code of Regulations Title 23. Waters requires a permit from the State Reclamation Board. Contact San Joaquin County Flood Management to determine if your project is located on a Title 23 channel.

Channels within Reclamation Districts may require approval from the District. Contact Flood Management Division to determine if your project is located in a Reclamation District and to get contact information.

All other drainage channels, conduits or ditches not located on a County right of way within San Joaquin County require a water course encroachment permit from San Joaquin County Flood Management Division. Work includes the construction of bridges, installation of drainage pipes or culverts, replacing drainage pipes, or culverts, and relocating channels,

Modifications to any channel may also require approval from State Fish and Game.

www.sjgov.org/pubworks



Guide to Channel and Levee Maintenance



Flood Management Division
1810 East Hazelton Avenue
Stockton, CA 95205



THINGS TO DO

Owners of properties that have channels or ditches that carry drainage are responsible to keep them cleared to allow the free flow of run off. Any person may clean debris, clear brush weeds or other general maintenance that does not change the shape, volume or flow capacity; or disturb the bottom or sides of the channel.

DO contact Flood Management Division or Channel Maintenance Division if you see dumping or burning on a levee, on an easement, or right of way.

DO contact Flood Management Division or Channel Maintenance if you see a clog or anyone filling a channel, ditch or culvert that carries drainage on private property.

DO contact Public Services Division for drainage problems located on County road rights of way.

If you have questions regarding permitting of your project, contact Flood Management or Channel Maintenance Divisions.



DO NOT dump any kind of debris on any levee, drainage easement or right of way. This impedes the maintenance of the channel, costs tax dollars to clean up and is illegal.



DO NOT build fences or walls running parallel to the levee closer than ten feet from the land side toe.



DO NOT allow culverts or channels on your property to become obstructed.

DO NOT fill any creek, channel, conduit, ditch or culvert that carries drainage



DO NOT burn debris on levees, embankments or in channels. The soil bakes, degrading its structural integrity, causing the soil to crumble and be easily washed away.



DO NOT build steps, retaining walls or any other structure into a levee face.

