

Flooding Problems in Georgia

Water is a necessity for life, and humans need it to survive. Flooding can drastically change the sanitation of the water and can contaminate water supplies. Even though Georgia is not prone to floods, warmer weather melts the glaciers and causes the oceans to rise about an inch per decade. These rising temperatures can cause deadly pathogens in freshwater resources such as lakes, rivers, and reservoirs, making drinking from them dangerous and deadly. The rising sea levels are causing freshwater sources to become salty and ruining the sources people rely on.

In the future, due to climate change, Georgia will experience higher sea levels, warmer climates, droughts, flooding, and more. While the carbon dioxide levels are increasing, the greenhouse gasses are too; the increase of these gas levels made the atmosphere temperature rise by one degree higher in the last fifty years. Not only has the atmosphere's temperature risen, but so has the surface temperature of the oceans by one degree in the last eighty years. The increasing temperature causes snow to melt earlier in the spring and the mountain glaciers to thaw. Therefore, the melted ice adds to the current volume which makes the sea levels rise.

Flood waters can contaminate drinking water sources like wells or freshwater springs. When rainwater falls to the ground, it comes into contact with different objects, including animal waste or sewage. This contaminated water interacts with people's drinking water and can cause deadly diseases. Not only is the water not drinkable, but it also can not be used to cook or clean. People would have to start drinking bottled water which can lead to inflation.

When floods occur, they can cause serious damage to a house, such as leaky pipes, roof damage and more. Some ways to help a house withstand flooding are raising it on a stilt or pier,

install check valves on pipes, point the gutter runoff away from the house or raise electrical outlets and switches. While the house may still get flooded, these recommendations can positively affect the house during floods. If a flood is unexpected and the owner of a house is not prepared, there are many steps one can take to try and save the home. These include turning off the water line, clearing out gutters and drains so water can flow freely, or using sandbags around the house to block gaps from water. While flooding is unavoidable, there are still many ways to protect houses from getting damaged.

As climate change continues, flooding and warmer weather will keep increasing. With a whole community's contribution to flood recovery, they will know how to handle it in the future. As more floods occur, there will also be more ways to protect and save people along with learning how to live with it. As time goes on, the amount of water inundation will increase and people should learn to adapt to it and other natural disasters that are caused by climate change.

Raina B. Patel

10/17/2022

Brij Patel and Rima Patel

Brij101@yahoo.com

678-850-6490

United States Environmental Protection Agency | US EPA. (n.d.). Retrieved October 18, 2022, from <https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/climate-change-ga.pdf>

Chlorine dioxide. Waterpureworld. (2022, February 15). Retrieved October 18, 2022, from <https://waterpureworld.com/>

Fate of world's coastlines rests on melting Antarctic Ice. Fate of World's Coastlines Rests on Melting Antarctic Ice | Climate Central. (n.d.). Retrieved October 18, 2022, from <https://www.climatecentral.org/news/fate-of-worlds-coastlines-melting-antarctic-ice-20270>

Water and the global climate crisis: 10 things you should know. UNICEF. (2022, March 18). Retrieved October 18, 2022, from <https://www.unicef.org/stories/water-and-climate-change-10-things-you-should-know>

My drop counts. (n.d.). Retrieved October 18, 2022, from <https://mydropcounts.org/>

Clean water campaign. (n.d.). Retrieved October 18, 2022, from <https://cleanwatercampaign.org/>

Raina B. Patel

10/17/2022

Brij Patel and Rima Patel

Brij101@yahoo.com

678-850-6490

Caughill, D. (2021, August 25). *How to prevent your house from flooding*. ValuePenguin.

Retrieved October 18, 2022, from

<https://www.valuepenguin.com/homeowners-insurance/how-to-prevent-home-flooding>