

London Drainage Facilities Warns That London is Set to Face Flooding if Homeowners Keep Paving Their Gardens

The London-based drainage contractor has expressed concern that the City of London is at a high risk of flooding if homeowners continue 'waterproofing' their gardens.

November 17, 2015 (FPRC) -- A recent study revealed that unless London homeowners stop paving over their gardens, the city is at great risk of flooding, even from what would normally be considered to be light rainfall.

There are many factors that are set to lead to increased flooding, not least that London's population has increased to 11 million; the city is home to more cars than ever before; and weather patterns are gradually becoming more extreme over time.

City Hall, Thames Water and The Environment Agency have shown their support for a review to be carried out into whether the London's harsh parking restrictions and expensive parking space costs are forcing more homeowners to convert their front gardens into functional driveways.

This review outlined the 'red' areas in which the sewage and drainage capacity may not be able to manage the increasing water flows by 2050 if no preventative action is taken. As well as this, it also revealed that over the last 40 years a shocking 17 per cent of permeable ground surface in London has been lost, mainly as a result of Londoners 'waterproofing' their gardens.

These clear environmental dangers have prompted Boris Johnson to publish the first London Sustainable Drainage Action Plan, which is designed to ensure that the city's Victorian-era drainage infrastructure does not overflow.

The plan aims to reduce the amount of water flowing into the sewer network by a quarter by 2040 by carrying out a series of measures, including the following:

- Permeable materials will be used for parking spaces
- Green roofs will be created to soak up rainfall rather than it going straight into the sewage system
- Rain gardens will be created
- Public policies surrounding parking zones and restrictions will be reviewed
- Better landscaping and town planning will be implemented

Fraser Ruthven, Head of Marketing & Growth at London Drainage Facilities, said:

'London is at high risk of flooding, therefore the Sustainable Drainage Action Plan is a great step in the right direction to avoid the problem escalating in the near future.'

Boilerplate:

London Drainage Facilities (LDF) offers a 24/7 emergency callout service for drain repairs, flood clearances and blockages. Using advanced technology, the experts at LDF can provide fast and efficient solutions to clients throughout London. For more information, please call Fraser Ruthven on 0800 612 2179.

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