



Land Use Services Building and Safety Division Information Bulletin

Number:
IB-0003

Code References:
2025 CBC
ASCE 7-22

Building Official Signature:

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Subject: Rainfall Water Flow Rate, Wind Speed Requirements, and Snow Load Design Values

Original Effective Date:
November 28, 1972
Updated:
January 1, 2026

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Information Bulletin is to provide the rainfall water flow rate, wind speed requirements, and snow load design values for the communities within San Bernardino County.

2.0 HISTORY

Original Effective Date: November 28, 1972; Updated: January 1, 2026

3.0 PROCEDURE

Rainfall Water Flow Rate

- A. Rainfall Water Flow Rate: Throughout the County of San Bernardino, the recognized rainfall water flow rate is 2.5 inches per hour for a 100-year return.
- B. Alternatively, the rainfall water flow rate may be determined based on the site location using the program available at:

https://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov/hdsc/pfds/pfds_map_cont.html?bkmrk=ca

Use the design value of an hour for a 100-year return in inch.

- C. The ASCE Rainfall Design Geodatabase can be accessed at the ASCE 7 Hazard Tool (<https://asce7hazardtool.online>) or approved equivalent.

Wind Speed Requirements

Wind loads shall be based on the California Building Code (CBC) Section 1609 or ASCE 7-22 with the following design criteria:

- A. Minimum Exposure Category C shall be used throughout the County of San Bernardino.
- B. The ASCE Wind Design Geodatabase can be accessed at the ASCE 7 Hazard Tool (<https://asce7hazardtool.online>) or approved equivalent.
- C. Special Wind Region, where listed in the tool shall be 120 mph for all risk categories.

Snow Load Design Values

- A. The ground snow loads to be used in determining the design snow loads for roofs shall be determined in accordance with the reliability-targeted (strength based) ground snow load values in ASCE 7-22.
- B. The ASCE Snow Design Geodatabase can be accessed at the ASCE 7 Hazard Tool (<https://asce7hazardtool.online>) or approved equivalent.



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- C. Potential accumulation of snow at valleys, parapets, roof structures and offsets in roofs of uneven configuration shall be considered.
- D. All building exits under down-slope eaves having a slope greater than 4:12 shall be protected from sliding snow and ice.
- E. Roof members supporting plaster shall be designed for deflection.
- F. Snow loads shall not be reduced due to the tributary area.
- G. The roof snow loads may be modified in accordance with the procedures found in ASCE 7-22.
- H. 20% of the uniform design snow load, regardless of actual roof slope, shall be included in effective seismic weight of the structure where the flat roof snow load exceeds 30 psf.

Note:

- 1. Frost Line Depth: 18 inches of frost line depth shall be used for the foundation design in Mountain Region.