

The house flooded on May 3rd, 2019. There was a French drain in the back that had been there since long before I bought the house. I was unaware that the drain had become clogged and pinched over the years in multiple places, and was not draining properly. When a heavy rainstorm came down, the backyard flooded and a small amount of water came in through the back of the house. It wasn't bad enough to go all the way to the front, however.

I immediately had a landscaping company come out and rip out the old drainage system and install a new, bigger, better drainage system, as well as had the land regraded, some rock streams installed, and small trenches under the fences. All of this has completely resolved the drainage issue, and now when it rains the water immediately flows to the front down to the street.

I had flood insurance, just because I always carry it, so was able to have everything fully demoed and repaired properly. I pulled out a lot more drywall and insulation than was even necessary, just to be safe. I dried the house for weeks even after moisture readings showed it was fine, and I had a mold inspection done, and passed. All measures have been taken to ensure the home is safe and fully repaired properly, and will not be flooding from the back as long as the drainage system remains in good repair. I would expect this new one to last a long time. Instead of flimsy corrugated pipes, these drainage pipes are much harder, tougher, and smooth (thick PVC). I have included the invoice from the landscaping company that did the work to show what was done.

Be sure to maintain the backyard to stay clear of debris so water can flow freely away from the house.

The French drains require little maintenance. There are four catch basins, and they have about three inches in the bottom of them that can hold dirt and debris before it will start going into the pipe. The catch basins need to be checked periodically, especially after a storm, and the dirt cleared out. This will ensure they can continue to drain excess water away from the house and down to the street.