

A damming innovation

Garrison Flood Control recently helped to alleviate flooding in Salt Lake City



Above: Mayim Flood Barrier

Above right: Mayim connection system

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Below: Panoramic view of Salt Lake City. Garrison recently collaborated with local authorities in an emergency flooding response

THE NEED FOR EFFECTIVE protection measures has become increasingly important as climate change exacerbates the severity and frequency of flood events, and as the growing urbanisation of flood-prone areas continues, protecting critical infrastructure such as roads, power plants, and communication facilities has become an essential aspect of flood management strategies.

The Mayim Modular Flood Barrier is US-based manufacturer Garrison Flood Control's flagship product. Described as being versatile, adaptable, and cost-effective it is composed of a series of interlocking, water-resistant panels that can be quickly assembled and disassembled, making them an ideal solution for emergency response situations. The barrier's ability to redirect overflowing dam water away from critical infrastructure helps to minimise the risk of damage to vital assets, and is particularly crucial in regions where heavy rainfall or snowmelt can threaten the safety and stability of the surrounding areas.

Salt Lake City

Recently, collaborating with the flood control operations team as well as public works engineers, Garrison Flood Control was tasked with providing a flood protection solution. The company rapidly supplied 1000ft of Mayim Flood Barriers to Salt Lake County, 1000ft of Mayim to Salt Lake City and 1700ft to University of Utah Hospital, allowing a coordinated response to potential flood events with an easy-to-use system that was deployed rapidly in a time sensitive

environment, even as flooding was occurring.

Barriers were quickly deployed to route water down specific Salt Lake City streets and away from vulnerable neighbourhoods, parks, and infrastructure. As waters were released upstream, Mayim barriers, in conjunction with sandbags deployed by teams of volunteers, were placed in strategic locations to stop and divert water flow. As water levels rose, large amounts of water were able to be re-directed and the remaining flow was weakened, minimising its ability to cause devastating damage. As snow melt flooding continues throughout the season, Mayim flood barrier sections will be moved to respond to changing and diverse flood risks throughout the region.

The Mayim Modular Flood Barrier offers a range of advantages according to Garrison Flood Control, including:

- **Versatility:** The modular design allows for easy customization to suit the unique requirements of each flood protection scenario. This enables the barriers to be used in a variety of settings, from urban environments to rural landscapes.
- **Rapid Deployment:** The interlocking panels can be quickly assembled and disassembled, making them an ideal solution for emergency response situations. This allows for rapid deployment in the face of an imminent flood event, providing crucial protection when it is needed most.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:** The Mayim Flood Barriers are a cost-effective alternative to traditional flood protection methods, offering comparable levels of protection at a fraction of the cost. This makes them an attractive option for municipalities and private entities seeking to optimise their flood management budgets.

As climate change continues to increase the frequency and severity of flood events worldwide, the need for adaptable flood protection solutions has never been more urgent. As demonstrated in Salt Lake County, flood barriers can help mitigate the devastating impact of floods on communities and critical assets. ●

