

FLOOD SAFETY TIPS

BEFORE A FLOOD

Find out if you are in a flood prone area...

- Look for, view and print online maps using County data including parcels, floodway and floodplain boundaries.
- Look up information on locating Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), understand how to read them, and requesting a map change.



Make a plan...

- Make sure everyone knows emergency phone numbers, and when to call them.
- Learn the safest routes to high ground.
- Make arrangements for housing in the event you need to evacuate your home.
- Establish meeting places and phone numbers in case family members are separated by rising flood waters.

Mitigate flood damage...

- Store valuables and household chemicals at higher elevations.
- Ensure that underground storage tanks are fully sealed and secure.
- Have check valves installed in building sewer traps to prevent flood waters from backing up in sewer drains.
- Move vehicles to higher ground.
- Keep street drains and storm grates free of leaves and other debris.

Keep emergency supplies on hand...

- Create a Disaster Supplies Kit.
- Be sure to include: portable radio, emergency cooking equipment, flashlights, fresh batteries, non-perishable food and drinking water, essential medicines and a first-aid kit.
- Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio.

Consider buying flood insurance to protect your property...

- Homeowners' insurance does not cover flood loss, but most homeowners' insurance agents also sell flood insurance.

DURING A FLOOD

Listen to your NOAA Weather Radio...

- Stay informed about the latest watches, warnings, and advisories.
- Follow all emergency instructions.
- Be prepared to evacuate.

Avoid flood prone areas...

- NEVER drive through a flood roadway.
- NEVER let children play around high water, storm drains, or viaducts.

If you are caught in your building by rapidly rising waters, call 911 for help...

- Then move to a higher floor or to the roof.
- Take warm, weatherproof clothing, a flashlight, a cellular phone and a portable radio.



AFTER A FLOOD

Before re-entering your home:

- Check for structural damage that could cause the building to collapse.
- Be cautious of potential gas leaks, electrical shorts and live wires. Use flashlights, rather than lanterns or candles (in case of gas leaks).
- Have a professional check your heating system, electrical panel, outlets and appliances for safety before using.
- Call the gas company to have them turn the gas back on.

Follow Public Health procedures...

- Learn how to properly clean your home after a flood.
- Learn how to clean your basement.

Document and cover your losses...

- Contact your insurance agent for flood loss claims.
- Apply for financial assistance, if applicable.