Flood to-do list

floodmary.com

How to plan for flooding

Flooding can happen quickly and often when you don't expect it. Preparing a Household Flood Plan in advance of a flood will help you keep calm during a stressful situation. Once you have completed your Household Flood Plan, keep it close to hand and tell everyone in your family where it is. Don't forget to update it when your circumstances change – for example, a change of school, new furniture etc.

Every house is different – so tailor this plan to suit you and your household. It is essential that you sign up for a free Environment Agency Flood Warning.
Use this link www.gov.uk/get-flood-warnings

Before leaving your house try to take photographs of each flooded area showing water levels and items in situ - it will assist you when preparing a claim with your insurance company. SECURE THE HOUSE!

Here are a few hints for you when planning for a flood:

- Ensure adults in the household know where and how to turn off gas and electricity at the mains.
- Put important documents in a sealed plastic bag upstairs or on a high shelf. This includes marriage / birth / death certificates, insurance documents, wills, passports, property deeds etc.. BETTER STILL MAKE COPIES AND KEEP THEM IN YOUR EMERGENCY KIT.
- Make sure precious photographs, mementos such as baby pictures, children's drawings and wedding videos etc. are stored upstairs.
- Make a list of valuable household items. Write down a priority list for moving them to safety and note location.
- Keep a collection of blocks and plastic crates, bricks or planks of wood close to hand~ in your shed perhaps. This will help you lift furniture off the ground. Write down where you are keeping them.
- Decide which room to designate for storage - you may all have to share one bedroom, make sure there is room!
- Where will you put your car? Many people forget to move cars to higher ground and then find that not only is their home flooded but their car is too!

Go through each room methodically and think what you will do and write it down. The following will help you:

Kitchen

- Where could the contents of your lower cupboards go? Move soap powder and stuff in cardboard containers upstairs.
- Put heavier items at the bottom of the pile
- Place vases or buckets under table legs to limit water line damage
- Put plugs in sinks and weigh them down to stop backflow.
- If time allows could you ask a friend / neighbour to pick up and store your frozen goods?

Living Rooms

- Rugs, CDs, books, cushions etc., can all be put upstairs
- Do you have fixed storage cupboards that need emptying?
- Have you disconnected audio / visual equipment and lifted them up or moved them upstairs, along with the cables?
- Fold curtains upwards in half in-situ and tie securely with string
- If you can't carry your sofas upstairs stand them on bricks, crates or blocks and pile your other furniture on top
- What about your paperwork and important files?
- Is your computer or any other electrical equipment unplugged and lifted up high, along with wiring

Actions to take when a trigger warning is reached. This could be when you receive an Environment Agency flood alert or warning, or a Met Office weather warning:

FLOOD ALERT
A Flood Alert means that flooding is possible and that you need to be prepared.

FLOOD WARNING
A Flood Warning means that flooding is expected and that you should take immediate action. You should take action when a flood warning is issued and not wait for a Severe Flood Warning.

SEVERE FLOOD WARNING
A Severe Flood Warning means that there is severe flooding and danger to life. These are issued when flooding is posing significant risk to life or disruption to communities.

Checklist for Emergency Kit

Read your guide booklet for further information on these items. Tick each item off when you have packed it.

Emergency Kit

Essential items to store in case you are isolated in an emergency with no power / light etc.

- [ ] Water (3 litres) for each person in your household (it will be safe to drink for 12 months)
- [ ] Long life food / cans / packets / cereal bars / chocolate bars
- [ ] Portable camping stove & gas refills / old saucepan
- [ ] Lighter
- [ ] Rechargeable camping lights
- [ ] Wind-up multi function radio or portable FM radio
- [ ] LED Head torch/ lantern
- [ ] Children's toys/games
- [ ] Spare batteries for kit above
- [ ] Fleece blankets
- [ ] Hygiene items
- [ ] Old analogue dial phone
- [ ] Hearing aid batteries
- [ ] Copy of this emergency plan on top!

Grab Bag

Easily portable and preferably waterproof - a dry sack is ideal. Essential items stored in case you need to get out quickly!

- [ ] Copies of Important documents eg: Insurance policy/Passports/Wills/Deeds/Shares etc.
- [ ] Photos and useful information on a USB stick
- [ ] Spare set of house & car keys
- [ ] Essential hygiene items
- [ ] Prescription for essential medication
- [ ] Cash
- [ ] Anti bacterial gel
- [ ] Whistle
- [ ] First Aid Kit
- [ ] Spare lead for pet
- [ ] FM Pocket radio / batteries
- [ ] Change of warm clothing if space permits

Note: If you have time, you may like to take other items such as portable back up drive, laptop, current medication, reading glasses, hearing aid, iPod, books etc.

Update the emergency kit, contact lists and grab bag at least once a year

Checked on: _____

Checked on: _____

Checked on: _____

Property Flood Resilience (PFR) Equipment List

Item _____

Where is it kept? _____

How to install it

Item _____

Where is it kept? _____

How to install it

Item _____

Where is it kept? _____

How to install it

Item _____

Where is it kept? _____

How to install it

Emergency contacts

Keep a copy of this list easily to hand and store one copy in your emergency kit.

POLICE, FIRE & AMBULANCE SERVICE – Emergencies only	**999**
Hard of hearing TEXT TO: FIRE, AMBULANCE OR POLICE (pre-registration required)	**999**

Local Police non-emergencies Minicom helpline if you are hearing impaired

National Gas Emergency Service	**0800 111 999**
Electricity (24 hour emergency service and supply failures only)	**105**
Environment Agency Floodline Quickdial number for your area. Telephone Floodline and dial 1 to find your area code or visit their website.	**0345 988 1188**
Floodline Type Talk if you are hard of hearing	**0345 602 634**

District Council (Working Hours)

District Council (Emergency only)

Highways Department

School closure alerts

Local resilience forum

Local Hospitals

NHS Direct **111**

Local Radio & Media (also available online or digital TV)

Local BBC radio number

Personal Contact Numbers

Roadside assistance (AA/RAC etc.,)

Roadside assistance Policy Number

GP

School/s

Insurance Claim line & Policy Number

Vet / Kennel

Emergency contacts

Everyone knows a flood can strike the home anytime but most are still unprepared for it.
A Household Flood Plan can save lives. Making a plan helps you to think clearly, have a greater sense of control and make better decisions if a flood happens.

Where will we meet?

Think about how you can stay in touch with people you know if you become separated – do not rely on phones, especially mobile networks. Identify two meeting places one close by, the other slightly further away in case the emergency is more widespread.

Nearby place:

Outside the immediate area:

Where and how do we turn off the following?

Only do this if you have time to do so.

Water:

Gas:

Electricity:

Where can we stay?

If you have to evacuate could you stay with friends or family. Have two different places in case one of them is away.

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Evacuation

- If you need to be evacuated stay where you are until the emergency services come to help you.
- Never travel anywhere if you're told it's not safe to do so – 15cm of flood water can knock an adult over and 60cm of water can float a car!
- You will only be asked to leave your home if necessary and for your own safety.
- Your local council may assign emergency rest centers – if you wish to stay with family and friends ensure your key contacts are aware of your location.
- Don't go back to your home until you are told it is safe to do so. Keep tuned in to local TV or radio for advice.

Will any neighbours need our help?

If you have vulnerable, elderly or neighbours on their own that might need help to move furniture or evacuate.

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Mobile: