

National Preparedness

Month 2016

Flood Safety



BEFORE



1. Prepare your home.

If you live in a floodplain area, consider purchasing flood insurance to protect your investment in your home.

2. Build an emergency kit.

Essential items like drinking water, non-perishable food, a battery operated or hand crank radio, and flashlight should be included.



3. Make a family communication plan.

Make sure you and your loved ones are able to stay connected in the event that you're not together when the flood hits.

DURING

4. Turn off your utilities.

Turn off the gas, electricity, and water supplies at the main switches, if it is safe.

DO NOT touch sources of electricity if you're wet or standing in flood water.

5. Listen for updates.

Turn on your radio or television to keep updated on local emergency information.

6. Evacuate if necessary.

Wear protective clothing and drink bottled water only.

Don't walk or drive through flood waters. Just six inches of moving water is enough to knock you down and 2 feet of water can sweep your car away.

AFTER



7. Return home only when authorities say it is safe

Continue to monitor radio or TV for information and advice.

Avoid contact with floodwaters as much as possible. They may contain raw sewage, gasoline, and oil.

8. Photograph damage.

Call your insurance company.

Don't throw away any items until your insurer says it's OK to do so.



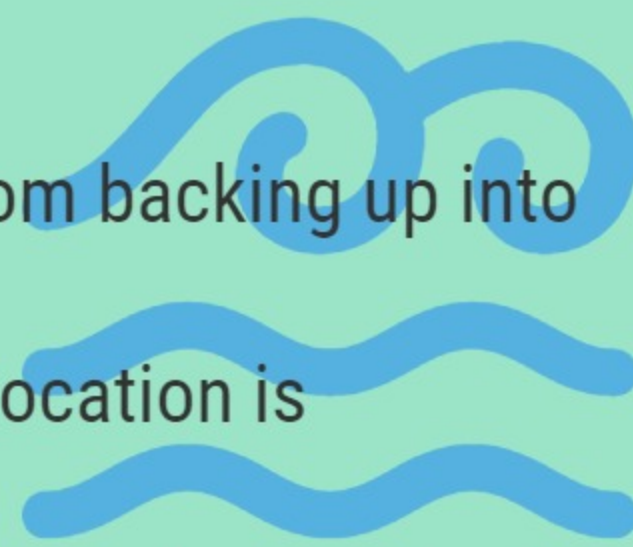
9. Emergency repairs.

Arrange emergency repairs to your property to prevent further losses.



How to Prepare your Home for a Flood

- Install "check valves" in sewer lines to prevent floodwater from backing up into the drains of your home;
- Elevate the furnace, water heater, and electrical panel if the location is susceptible to flooding; and
- Keep important papers in a fireproof, waterproof box. For electronic records, keep a backup drive in your fireproof, waterproof box or store files using a secure cloud-based service.



For more information, visit www.ready.gov

