



HOUSEHOLD FLOOD PLANNING



There may be very little warning or time to prepare for a flood, especially if you live in an area where flash flooding occurs. By creating a flood plan valuable time can be saved when a flood is expected, by having all the relevant and useful information you need in one easily accessible place, providing clear instruction on how to respond.

Checklist

- Sign up to Environment Agency flood alerts and warnings and understand what they mean.
- Check that your home insurance covers flooding.
- Make a floodkit using the floodkit checklist.
- Move important documents to a safe place out of flood risk.
- Investigate property flood resilience (PFR) options for your property - consider both flood resistance and resilience methods.
- Make a schedule to keep PFR products maintained.

Utility Supplies

The location of your utility supplies should be noted down along with instructions on how to switch them off. This will prevent further damage should a flood occur.



Important Contacts

A general list of contacts should be recorded and kept up to date. This list may be useful should you have to evacuate your house. Important contacts may include:

- Family and friends who may be able to help you
- Environment Agency's Floodline - 0345 988 1188
- Your gas, electricity and water suppliers
- Local radio stations to keep regularly updated
- Insurance company
- Local Authorities



Environment Agency Flood Alerts and Warnings

These flood warnings can be used as a trigger to put your flood plan into action and so it is important to understand what each warning means and decide what actions to take at each stage.

Flooding is possible



FLOOD ALERT

At this stage, you should ensure that you stay vigilant and make early preparations for a potential flood. There is the possibility that your flood plan may need to be put into action.

Flooding is expected



FLOOD WARNING

At this stage, immediate action is required to protect yourself and your property. Many people use this stage as a trigger to put your flood plan into action.

Severe flooding is expected



SEVERE FLOOD WARNING

There is a significant risk to life and property. Prepare to evacuate and cooperate with the emergency services.

It is also useful to have an evacuation plan in place and noted on your flood plan. This should contain details of where to go if you need to evacuate, including the address and contact details of an emergency assistance centre if known.

Floodkit Checklist

Having a flood kit prepared prior to the event of a flood can be very helpful should you need to evacuate. The flood kit checklist should be composed of essential items you will need if you're going to be away from your home for a few days. Recommended items include:

- Warm and waterproof clothing and blankets
- Medications and a first aid kit
- Bottled drinking water and food
- Purse/wallets including cash and cards
- Important documents such as insurance documents
- Mobile phones and chargers
- Torch and extra batteries if necessary
- Camera to take photos of damage
- Toys for children
- Pet toys and pet food
- Rubber gloves and wellingtons
- Keys

