



COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS OF FLOODING IN THE WIRRAL

There are often misunderstandings surrounding flooding and how it can affect you. Every flooding event is unique and can have varying effects on towns and villages.

"I don't live close to a river - I won't flood"

This is not always true, there are different types of flooding which can be from groundwater, surface water, the coast, sewers, reservoirs and canals. It is important to check if you're at risk.



"It's already happened once, it won't happen again."

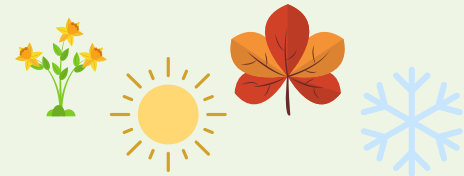


Flooding can happen at any time. It is possible all year round and even multiple times in one year.

For example, the town of Poynton in Cheshire flooded twice in 2016 and again in 2019.

"Flooding only happens in winter."

Flash flooding can be severe in summer as the hard, dry ground is unable to absorb water, which increases surface runoff.



THERE ARE 18,000 PROPERTIES AT RISK OF FLOODING IN THE WIRRAL!

"I live on a hill, I won't flood."

Properties on a hill can suffer flooding from surface water runoff, sewage pipes, groundwater or even a burst water pipe.

Floodwater in surrounding areas may leave your property isolated, making you unable to leave or enter your property safely until the flooding has subsided.



"We are protected by flood defences."

This does not mean a flood won't happen!

Flood defences are often designed for a flood with a specific return period, for example, a 1 in 70 year flood.

In 2015, Storm Desmond overtopped the Carlisle's flood defences.



"Climate Change won't affect me in my lifetime."



This is NOT necessarily true! The effects of climate change, such as severe weather patterns, rising sea levels and increases in global temperature, are becoming more common.

It is thought that parts of the Wirral and Merseyside will be underwater by just a 2°C increase in global temperature.