

Spot the Hazards: Before, during and after a flood

Explore the situations on the following pages. Can you identify the actions you should take to stay safe before a flood occurs? Can you spot all of the dangers to avoid during and after a flood? The answers can be found at the back of resource, along with some further information about each hazard.



Safety steps: Before a flood

This graphic contains several steps to take before a flood to ensure you and your household remain safe. Can you circle them all and explain why these measures would keep you safe?



Dangers: During a flood

A flood is a very dangerous situation for yourself, your household and your belongings. Can you spot all the dangers below? What harm might these dangers cause you?



Dangers: After a flood

The time after a flood can be confusing, upsetting and difficult to navigate. This graphic shows some of the key steps to take to ensure your household is safe, both physically and mentally, and your property is safe whilst you start the recovery process.



Answers: Before a flood



Explanations: Before a flood



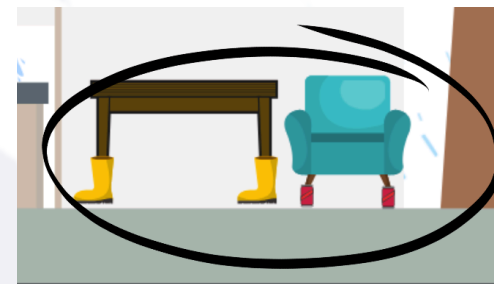
Move valuable and important items to a higher level.



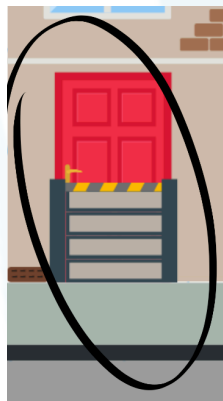
Check and restock your flood kit. Water, medications and a torch are essential.



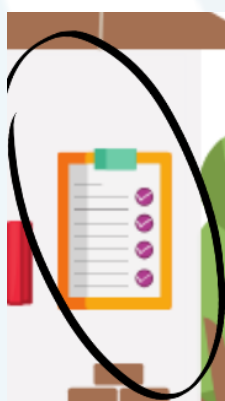
If a flood is imminent, turn off utilities like gas, water, and electricity at the source to prevent potential hazards.



Protect and stack ground floor level furniture. Items such as tins or wellingtons can be used to protect furniture.



Deploy property flood resilience measures.



A flood plan should include key contacts, important documents and evacuation points.



Sign up to the Environment Agency Flood Alerts and Warnings service or, an alternative alert.

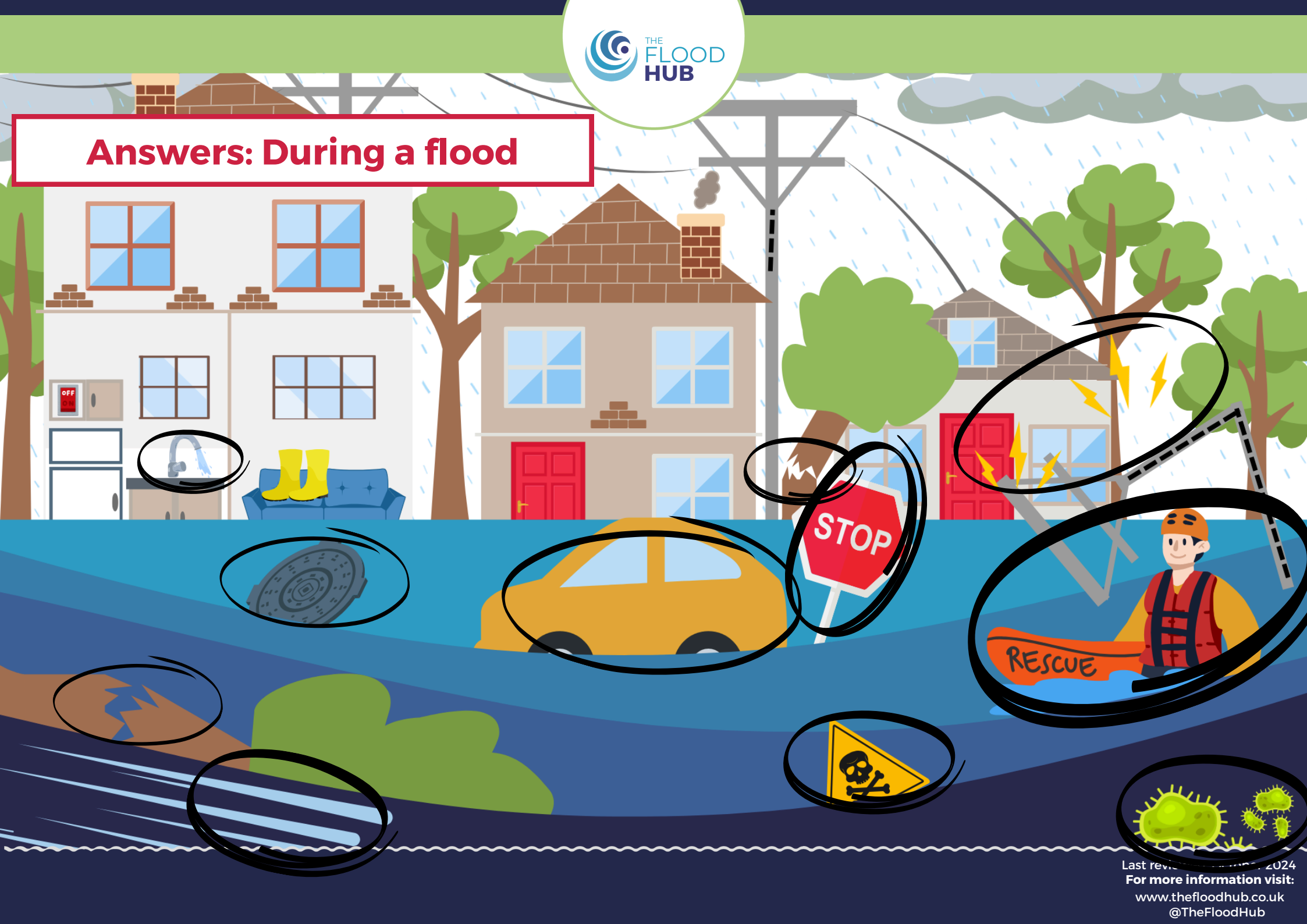


Identify local evacuation centres and routes and make arrangements for any pets.



Move vehicles to higher ground to prevent them becoming damaged, or causing an obstruction.

Answers: During a flood



Explanations: During a flood



Avoid entering deep floodwater. Dangerous items may be hidden under the surface.



Only a small amount of water is needed to damage your car, or put yourself in danger.



Floodwater can be full of nasty germs and bacteria.



Floodwater can become contaminated with hazardous chemicals.



Floodwater is powerful. Road signs, or dislodged manhole covers are a trip hazard.



Only use water from a reliable source. Bacteria and chemicals may contaminate tap water.



Report any fallen trees to your local council or highways department.



Report any fallen or damaged power lines. Do not touch electrical products if you are standing in water.



Avoid fast-flowing rivers, flows, and the sea. Moving water can easily sweep you off your feet.



Take advice from flood wardens and emergency services personnel.

Answers: After a flood



Explanations: After a flood



Discard any food that has come into contact with floodwater as it could be contaminated. It's crucial to wash your hands thoroughly.



Avoid using petrol generators indoors or an enclosed space. Keep them outdoors and well-ventilated.



Flood recovery can be overwhelming. Reach out to family and friends for emotional support. Flood recovery volunteers may help with the clean-up.



Use appropriate disinfectants to clean affected areas thoroughly. It's crucial to wash your hands thoroughly.



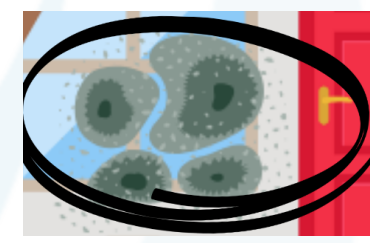
Document any property damage so you can notify your insurance company.



If you see any damaged or fallen lines, report them to the electricity board. Report any fallen trees to your local council or highways department.



After a flood, inspect your property for damage. Look for cracks in walls, structural integrity or damp. If you're unsure, consult a professional.



Ensure your property is correctly dried out. Any remaining moisture can cause mould and damp.