

PREPARING FOR A FLOOD - WHAT YOU CAN DO

If your area is **at risk** of being flooded:

- Listen to the latest warnings and advisories on the radio and television.
- Prepare your home for a possible extended vacancy and collect necessary personal items you will require if evacuated, such as cash, medication, important papers and identification, change of clothes (i.e. 72 hour emergency kit).
- Remove valuable items from the basement and lower-level areas.
- Ensure that your cell phone is charged – it may be your only means of communication during an evacuation.
- Be prepared to place your pets in a kennel, as evacuation centres may not accept animals.
- Keep your automobile fueled.
- Evacuate if directed to do so.
- In the event of an evacuation, assist those with special needs such as children and persons with disabilities.
- Secure all boats and items left loose on and around piers, docks or boathouses.

During a flood:

- Shut off the electricity, furnaces and the outside gas valves if safe to do so.
- Never try to cross a flooded area on foot.
- If you are in a car, do not drive through flood waters.

After a flood:

Flood dangers do not end when the water begins to recede. Take the following precautions following a flood:

- Seek out medical assistance, if needed.
- Check on neighbours who may need assistance.
- Report any broken utility lines to the appropriate authorities.
- Do not use flooded appliances, electrical outlets, switch boxes, or fuse breaker panels until they have been checked by your local authority.
- The water in your home could be heavily contaminated with sewage and other pollutants after a flood. Listen for instructions from your local public health unit as to what to do.
- Disinfect the entire premises.