

# How to Prepare for a Flood

## Prepare

### WHAT TO DO

- **Know your area's** risk for flooding
  - Flooding is most common in areas near bodies of water
- **Sign up** for local alerts and warnings
  - Learn the difference between Warnings & Watches
- **Gather supplies** in case you have to evacuate immediately
  - You should also have knowledge of evacuation routes and shelter plans
- **Consider** purchasing insurance that covers flood damages

## During

### WHAT TO DO

- **Move to higher ground**
  - Upper floors, attics and roofs are the safest places during a flood
- **Avoid flooded roadways**
  - Six inches of fast-moving water can knock a person down
  - One foot of fast-moving water can sweep vehicles away
- **Protect your property**
  - Unplug appliances and other electronic devices
  - Secure outdoor furniture and move valuables to higher ground
- **Obey all directions** from emergency personnel and alert systems
  - DO NOT walk, swim, or drive through flood waters
  - Stay off bridges over fast-moving water

## After

### WHAT TO DO

- **Pay attention** to weather alerts and be ready to change plans if necessary
  - Listen to authorities for instructions on returning home
- **Watch** for fallen power lines and trees
  - Report any potential safety hazards to the appropriate authorities
- **Be aware** of the possibility of electrocution
  - Avoid wading in floodwater, which can contain dangerous debris and be contaminated
  - DO NOT touch electrical equipment if it is wet