WEATHER & DISASTERS

Flood Preparedness Plan

Know your routes, prepare essential supplies, and leave before rising water removes your safe options.

> Never walk or drive through floodwater or go around a barricade. Call 911 if trapped or someone is in immediate danger.

Plan before water rises

- Know your property's flood risk, local warning methods, and evacuation routes. Sign up for local alerts and monitor National Weather Service information.
- Agree on transport, a destination, and a household contact. Plan assistance for children, people with access or medical needs, service animals, and pets. Keep essential supplies and documents ready.

Prepare safely

- Move important items out of flood-prone storage while conditions are safe. Discuss property-protection and utility precautions with qualified professionals before an emergency.
- Keep medication, chargers, drinking water, clothing, and contact information ready to take. Do not delay an evacuation to move furniture or attempt utility work.

During flooding

- Follow evacuation orders and move to higher ground. Avoid riverbanks, drainage channels, flooded roads, and water that may hide debris, damaged pavement, chemicals, or electricity.
- If trapped by rising water, move to the highest safe level and call for help. Do not enter a closed attic without a way out. Tell responders your exact location and follow instructions.

Return and recovery

- Return only when authorities permit it. Stay out of buildings with suspected structural damage, standing water near electrical equipment, or a possible gas leak; get qualified help.
- Follow the local water utility's drinking-water instructions. Do not assume boiling removes chemical contamination. Avoid flood-exposed food and medication, document damage safely, and follow public-health cleanup guidance.

Sources & further guidance

National Weather Service: During a flood | www.weather.gov
CDC: Preparing for floods | www.cdc.gov
CDC: Floodwater health and safety | www.cdc.gov