**KNOW WHAT TO DO**

**FLOOD INFORMATION** – Many Ohio communities can experience some type of flooding after spring rains, heavy thunderstorms or winter snow thaws. Floods can be either slow or fast-rising, but generally develop over a period of days. Flash flooding can occur with little or no warning and can reach its peak in only a few minutes.

Even if you live in a community with a low risk of flooding, keep in mind that anywhere it rains it can flood. Flood risk is based on rainfall topography, flood-control measures, river-flow and tidal-surge data, and changes due to new construction and development.

To protect yourself and others from the dangers of flooding, ReadyOhio and the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness suggest the following:

- Organize or restock disaster supply kits for the home and vehicle (in case you need to evacuate). Include in your emergency plans evacuation routes and shelter information, and update your family communications plan.

- Avoid building in a floodplain, unless you elevate and reinforce your home.

- Mitigate your home. Elevate the furnace, large appliances, water heater and electrical panel in your home if you live in a high flood risk area.

- Consider installing check valves in building sewer traps to prevent floodwaters from backing up into sewer drains.

---

**BE PREPARED**

Recommended items to include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:

- Bottled water
- Non-perishable food that requires no cooking
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- Battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio or commercial radio
- Whistle to signal for help
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags for sanitation
- First-aid supplies and extra medications
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Ensure that pets have plenty of water, food and supplies

---

**PROTECTION AGAINST FLOODING & FLASH FLOODING**


**BE STORM-READY**

www.ready.ohio.gov  www.publicsafety.ohio.gov

**OHIO SAFETY TIPS**

PURCHASED WITH FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE U.S. DEPT. OF HOMELAND SECURITY EMA 0016 10/19 [760-1282]
KNOW FLOOD INSURANCE

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) manages the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which helps provide a means for property owners to financially protect themselves. Flood insurance is offered to homeowners, renters, and business owners if their community participates in the NFIP. Participating communities agree to adopt and enforce ordinances that meet or exceed FEMA requirements to reduce the risk of flooding.

- Flood losses are not covered under renter and homeowner’s insurance policies. Flood insurance is available in most communities through insurance agents.
- Buildings in or outside an identified flood-prone area can purchase flood insurance, as long as the community is participating in the program. For an Ohio list, visit: www.fema.gov/cis/OH.pdf
- Flood insurance coverage can be purchased at any time, even during a flood, but there is a 30-day waiting period before the flood insurance policy goes into effect.

FLOOD Watch: A flood watch is issued for the potential of rapid flooding. A flood watch may also be issued when the onset of flooding is much slower, usually greater than six hours.

Flash Flood Warning: A flash flood warning signifies a short duration of intense or rapid flooding of counties, communities, streams, or urban areas.

Flash Floods: Rapid and life-threatening floods resulting from heavy rains that occur in a short period of time.

Flood: A condition that occurs when water overflows the natural or artificial confines of a stream or body of water, or accumulates by drainage or low-lying areas.

General River Flooding: A condition that follows heavy rain, snow melt or a combination. River flooding typically occurs slowly, allowing more time to take protective measures. Extreme flash flooding or a break up of an ice jam can produce more rapid river rises.

Urban and Small Stream Floods: Flooding occurs when heavy rain falls, resulting in flooding streets, underpasses or drainage ditches in urban areas, and creeks in rural areas. This flooding is dangerous if motorists drive through a flooded roadway or if children play near a storm drain or drainage ditch.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
FEMA NATURAL HAZARDS DIVISION
1-800-CALL-FLOOD OR VISIT FLOODSMART.GOV

ODNR DIVISION OF FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT
614-265-6750 OR VISIT HTTP://WATER. OHIODNR.GOV/