

# SIMPLE ACTIONS TO REDUCE FLOOD DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

Flood management is a shared responsibility, but there are simple actions that individual homeowners can take to reduce their damage during storms and flooding events. There are many simple, inexpensive steps you can take to reduce the amount of flood damage to your home.

## EMERGENCY FLOOD KIT



Prepare an emergency flood kit including waterproof clothes, bottled water, non-perishable food and your medications.

## CHECK THE WEATHER FORECAST

One of the easiest things you can do is be prepared. Checking the weather regularly will keep you apprised of impending hazardous weather. You may also be able to receive email or text hazardous weather warnings



## GUTTER AND ROOF MAINTENANCE

Repair or replace broken shingles on your roof and check for leaks around vents, plumbing and chimneys. Be sure to clean and maintain gutters to allow rainwater to properly drain and be directed away from the house.



## LANDSCAPING

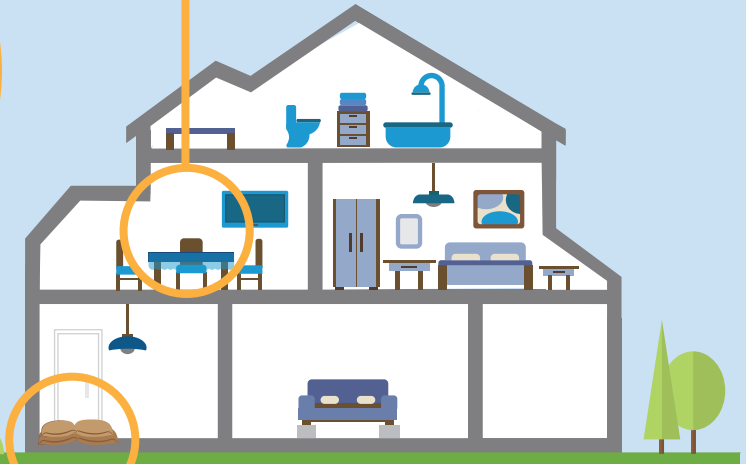
You can landscape your property to include plenty of drainage and features designed to divert water away from your home.

## CHECK FOR LEAKS

Check windows, doors, walls and foundations for cracks or leaks. Repairing cracks and leaks before a storm arrives will help reduce flood damage.

## MOVE ITEMS UP

Valuable items can be moved to higher areas in your home when a flood is expected. A second floor, attic or even high shelving can protect electronics, photos and documents. You may also elevate furniture on the first floor.



## FLOOD CONTROL PRODUCTS

There are flood control products that can reduce or help prevent flood water damage. The degree of damage reduction depends on the product, length of flooding, and extent of rainfall. Products include sand bags, flood barriers, floodgates, water-gates and others, some obtained online.

# KNOW YOUR RISK

Flood maps are a great resource that outline communities' potential for flooding.

Understanding the potential for flood impacts will help you to identify the preventative measures you can take to increase protection of your property.

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New York State Department of State's Coastal Risk Areas map on the Geographic Information Gateway (<https://tinyurl.com/coastalriskareas>) identifies potential levels of flood risk for planning purposes.

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The FEMA Flood Map Service Center (<https://msc.fema.gov>) provides FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), which identify probability of flooding for flood insurance purposes.

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