

Flood Mitigation - Preparing for a Flood

Some weather events give people time to prepare and evacuate if need be, but not all of them do. There are those storms that form in a short time and there is not enough warning for people to leave an area. Every family should have a plan for what to do if a disaster happens in their town. Being prepared will save you valuable time when you need to get a move on. The Town of Glenville is at risk of flash flooding due to all the streams that run through it. Flash flooding is dangerous because it occurs quickly and it is usually powerful due to the sheer amount of water. Households should have a plan that can be used in the event of any disaster. A great resource to get started is Ready.gov.

Making a Plan¹

- 1. Put a plan together by engaging in conversation with household members
 - a. How will you receive emergency alerts and warnings?
 - b. What is my shelter plan?
 - c. What is my evacuation route?
 - d. What is my household communication plan?
 - e. Do I need to update my emergency preparedness kit?
- 2. Consider specific needs in your household
 - a. Dietary needs
 - b. Medications and medical equipment
 - c. Cultural or religious considerations
- 3. Fill out a Family Emergency Communication Plan
 - a. https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2021-02/family-emergency-communication-plan.pdf
- 4. Practice your plan with your household
 - a. Practice makes perfect
 - b. In the event of a disaster, having things organized ahead of time will make things more efficient

Something to consider having is an emergency kit in your home and something smaller for your car. Here are some things you may want to include:²

- Water one gallon per person per day for several days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food at least a three-day supply of nonperishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert

¹ Ready. 2021. "*Make a Plan.*" United States Government. Retrieved March 19, 2021. https://www.ready.gov/plan

² Ready. 2021. "Build a Kit." United States Government. Retrieved March 19, 2021. https://www.ready.gov/kit

- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra batteries
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter in place
- Wrench and pliers to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener for food
- Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery
- Prescription medication
- Non-prescription medications
 - o Pain reliever, anti-diarrhea medication, antacids or laxative
- Prescription eyeglasses and contact lens solution
- Pet food and extra water
- Cash
- Important family documents
 - Copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records saved electronically or in a waterproof, portable container
- Complete change of clothing
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Femine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Paper cups, paper towels, and plastic utensils
- Sleeping bags or warm blankets for each person
- Books, games, or other activities for children

Being prepared can be the difference between a tragedy and a protected household. It is always better to be safe than sorry.