

Do's and Don'ts For Floods

Floods can be dangerous, but being prepared and knowing what to do can save lives.

Before a Flood (Preparation):

Do:

- Know if you live in a flood-prone area.
- Monitor weather reports and flood alerts regularly.
- Prepare an emergency kit with essentials (water, food, flashlight, first-aid, radio, medicines, documents).
- Keep important documents in a waterproof container.
- Elevate electrical appliances and valuables above expected flood levels.
- Learn evacuation routes and have a family communication plan.
- Install check valves in plumbing to prevent floodwater backup.

Don't:

- Don't ignore flood warnings or alerts.
- Don't wait until the last minute to evacuate.
- Don't block drains or water flow paths around your home.
- Don't build on floodplains without proper safety measures.

After a Flood (Recovery):

Do:

- Return home only when authorities declare it safe.
- Clean and disinfect everything that got wet.
- Check for structural damage before entering buildings.
- Wear protective clothing during clean-up.
- Boil drinking water until declared safe.
- Photograph damage for insurance claims.

Don't:

- Don't consume food or water that may have come in contact with floodwater.
- Don't use electrical appliances until they've been inspected.
- Don't ignore mold growth—clean or remove damp items quickly.
- Don't spread misinformation—follow official channels.

During a Flood (Action):

Do:

- Move to higher ground immediately.
- Evacuate if instructed by authorities without delay.
- Stay out of floodwaters—they may be contaminated or electrically charged.
- Turn off utilities like gas and electricity if safe to do so.
- Keep listening to weather updates on a battery-powered radio.

Don't:

- Don't walk, swim, or drive through floodwaters.
- Don't touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water
- Don't use bridges over fast-moving water if they may be unstable..

