

Flash Flood– What to do

<p>Before</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication at an early stage is essential • Alert your Community Emergency Response Team to the rainfall forecast, especially if heavy rain has started <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware. Know the signs. • Start local observations. Signs to watch for include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Heavy rain and/or severe weather reports ○ Rainfall not draining away, leading to surface water flooding ○ Rising river levels, with dark churning water ○ A build-up of debris in rivers, which could give way and cause a wave of water to surge <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start an incident log
<p>During</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report flooding and blockages that may increase flood risk: phone 0800 807060 and ask to speak to your local Flood Warning Duty Officer <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call 999 if there's a risk to life, or if you're trapped <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay safe. Prioritise your own safety at all times • Be ready to relocate to a safe place, if told to do so by the emergency services • Do not walk or drive through flood water <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support and guidance ahead of the arrival of the emergency services. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "Stay in a safe place with a means of escape. ○ If you're in a building with at least two storeys and believe it's safer to stay where you are, move to a higher storey of the building and wait for instructions from the emergency services. Turn off your gas, electricity and water mains supplies. ○ If you are in vulnerable accommodation e.g. bungalow, caravan or tent, seek shelter in the nearest two storey building or go to higher ground ○ Be ready should you need to evacuate your home. ○ Cooperate with emergency services ○ Do not walk or drive through flood water ○ Call 999 if you're in immediate danger" <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect information about the flood, if it's safe to do so <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Take photos ○ Note the date and time <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When emergency services arrive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Emergency Response Team coordinator to make themselves known to the Operational commander at an early stage ○ Provide an overview of the issues present. Relay concerns, local knowledge and issues to relevant authorities. ○ You may be asked to help relay information to the community (e.g. by door to door visits), such as areas to avoid/promote health, safety and well-being ○ You may be asked to assist with evacuation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cooperate with emergency services ▪ You can provide valuable support by directing people to a place of safety e.g. temporary community shelter/official local authority rest centre ▪ Remember: Nobody has the powers to force people out of their homes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with emergency responders before interacting with the media, even if 'off the record'
<p>After</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect information about the flood, if it's safe to do so <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Take photos ○ Note the date and time • Help relay concerns, local knowledge and issues to the relevant authorities • Signpost flood recovery advice e.g. http://www.bdma.org.uk/publications/flooddocs