



Important to Remember When It Floods!

- * If you have to evacuate, move to higher ground away from rivers, streams, creeks, and storm drains.
- * Do NOT walk through moving water. Six inches of moving water can make you fall. Walk through still water using a stick to check the firmness of the ground in front of you.
- * Do NOT drive *into* flooded areas. If floodwaters rise around your car or if your car stalls, abandon the car immediately and move to higher ground. You and the vehicle can be quickly swept away.
- ☔ Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most cars causing loss of control and possible stalling.
- ☔ One foot of water will float many vehicles.
- ☔ Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles - including SUVs and pick-ups.
- * Do NOT drive around barricades. They are there for your safety.

How can I prepare in advance for flooding emergencies?

- ☔ Have a flooding emergency kit including:
 - ☔ First aid kit
 - ☔ Canned food
 - ☔ 3 gallons of water per person
 - ☔ Protective clothing, rainwear, and bedding or sleeping bags
 - ☔ Written instructions for turning off power, gas and water. (you'll need a professional to turn them back on)
- ☔ Identify where you can go if told to evacuate (a friend's house a hotel/motel or shelter, on higher ground)
- ☔ Determine multiple escape routes to your evacuation destination
- ☔ See the following website for more info:
<http://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/>
- ☔ Prepare a Call List
 - ☔ Any dangerous situation: 911
 - ☔ High Water - Fire Dept.: 508-532-5940
 - ☔ Eversource Gas/Electric: 800-592-2000
 - ☔ Red Cross: 508-595-3700
 - ☔ Friends and Family



Framingham Flood Facts



How do I know when it will flood?

- Weather Forecasts on TV or radio
- Online Sudbury River forecast at Saxonville using the USGS website: NOAA's website <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?01098530> or see the same information at: www.erh.noaa.gov/er/nerfc -- Click on the Massachusetts map, then Saxonville site.
- Subscribe to Blackboard Connect and receive important messages from the Framingham Police Department. To learn more about it or sign up if you're not already in the system, go to the Town of Framingham's website and click on the "Blackboard Connect" button at the bottom of the screen or go directly to: <https://framinghamconnectportal.bbcportal.com/>.

What does the town provide for help?

- Subscribe for Town emergency updates through Blackboard Connect (see above).
- Public Works has a limited supply of sandbags for pick up *only* in case of emergencies. Call 508-532-6030.
Caution: Filled sandbags weigh up to 70 pounds. Use mechanical assistance such as a wheelbarrow to move them.
- Designated shelters around town.

What do I do when it floods?

- If there is time before evacuation, take some or all of these precautions
 - Move your furniture, valuables, and essential items to higher floors.
 - Fill your car gas tank in case an evacuation notice is issued.
 - Listen to local radio and TV stations for information and advice. If told to evacuate, do so as soon as possible.
 - Disconnect electrical appliances. Do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water.
 - If you have natural gas appliances in danger of flooding, turn off the gas.
 - Turn off utilities at the main switches or valves if instructed to do so.
 - Secure the building.
 - Call the people on your Call List as needed.



Can I do anything to prevent damage from flooding?

- Elevate appliances that are in danger of flooding or install new ones (furnace, water heater, electric panel) on patio blocks, bricks, cinder blocks or skids.
- Invest in or rent pump(s) from the hardware store, either sump or submersible depending on your potential flooding situation.
- Construct barriers (sandbags, berms, embankment, floodwalls) to stop floodwater from entering the building.
- Seal walls in basements with waterproofing compounds to avoid seepage. Do not necessarily seal the floors. (Consult with a flood expert before doing this type of work.)
- Label circuit breakers (fuses) and know which circuits/fuses power the electricity on the lowest level of the building.
- Invest in industrial strength dehumidifiers to dry out flooded areas after the water has receded.
- Consider raising the height of all electrical fixtures on the lowest level of the building.
- Install "check valves" in sewer traps to prevent flood water from backing up into the drains (consult with the Town).