

## FLOOD SAFETY

### **ALWAYS** cooperate with emergency services and local authorities

Despite all precautions, it may still be necessary to evacuate your home or business.

- Have a place arranged where you can stay
- Have warm waterproof clothing and rubber boots ready
- Have medications to hand (if needed)
- Check water and food stocks

### Personal Safety

- Do not try to walk, cycle or drive through flood water
- Avoid making a journey, if possible
- If you have to leave your vehicle, be wary of strong currents and debris
- Avoid contact with flood water if possible as it may be contaminated or polluted
- Shallow water may hide hazards such as dislodged manhole covers and debris
- Keep away from sea and flood defences
- Carry a mobile phone at all times in case you need to call for help. Call 112 or 999 in emergency

Advice for road users in extreme weather conditions can be found at [www.rsa.ie](http://www.rsa.ie)

### Flood Fact

As little as 300mm (one foot) in depth of fast flowing water can move most cars off the road.

## GENTLE REMINDER: CHECK ON YOUR ELDERLY RELATIVES AND NEIGHBOURS

- Phone them or call around
- Make sure they have enough fuel, food supplies and medications
- If in doubt call the Gardaí and ask them to check

## Remember

- Develop a Flood Plan
- Know your Emergency Contact Details
- Prepare your Home/Business/Farm
- Ensure everyone knows their role
- Stay Safe!

You can get more information from:

- [www.flooding.ie](http://www.flooding.ie)
- [www.emergencyplanning.ie](http://www.emergencyplanning.ie)
- [www.winterready.ie](http://www.winterready.ie)
- [www.met.ie](http://www.met.ie)
- [www.maps.opw.ie](http://www.maps.opw.ie)
- [www.floodmaps.ie](http://www.floodmaps.ie)
- [www.gov.ie/tag/local-authorities](http://www.gov.ie/tag/local-authorities)

# BE WINTER-READY



# Flooding

*Practical Advice for Severe Weather*



LoCall: 1890 252 736 or 0761 001 608

e-mail: [oeper@defence.ie](mailto:oeper@defence.ie)



[www.winterready.ie](http://www.winterready.ie)

[@emergencyIE](https://twitter.com/emergencyIE)



An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála, Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government

An Roinn Cosanta  
Department of Defence  
An Oifig um Pleanáil Eigeandála  
Office of Emergency Planning



## ADVANCE PLANNING

Floods are one of nature's most destructive forces and all counties in Ireland have experienced some kind of flooding.

All levels of government are working to reduce the impact of floods. However, individuals and communities also play an important role.

### Do you live in a flood risk area?

- For local knowledge, speak to neighbours and your local authority
- The OPW has maps available showing areas that may be at risk of flooding at [www.maps.opw.ie](http://www.maps.opw.ie)

If you live in a flood risk area, you can greatly lessen the impact of a flood by taking the time **to prepare in advance**:

- Make a flood plan for your family or business so that everyone knows what to do and where to go in case of a flood
- Make up a flood kit and ensure everyone knows where to find it
- Check if you have flood insurance and consider if there are any physical improvements to your property that you could make to reduce the likelihood of flood damage

See [www.flooding.ie](http://www.flooding.ie) for practical advice for homes, businesses and farms

## BE PREPARED

A typical **flood plan** for your home should include:

- Emergency Numbers—have a print-out and store electronically on your phone
- List of most valuable possessions—know where they are so that you can move them quickly to safety
- Store valuable documents in a watertight container—passports, birth certificates, insurance policy, etc.
- Gas and Electricity—know where the shut off points are
- Have a prearranged place that you can safely move your car to if you have time

Your **flood kit** should include a torch, some warm and waterproof clothes, a battery or wind-up radio, rubber gloves, rubber boots, a first aid kit, blankets and children's essentials, if required.

Practice your flood plan. Ensure that everyone knows what has to be done and what is safe to do.



## A FLOOD EVENT

You should check **local news and weather forecasts** and heed severe weather warnings issued. Be prepared to put into action any plans you have made to deal with flooding in your area including:

### Inside and Outside

- Move valuables and other items to safety above the flood level or upstairs if possible
- Disconnect washing machines and dishwashers
- Put sandbags at any openings where the water could gain access
- Turn off gas and electricity
- Move vehicles to high ground if possible
- Keep any chemicals or fuel in your garage in watertight containers and move to ensure that they do not spill into the flood water and cause damage
- Move livestock and pets to a safe location

### After a Flood

Always be careful when re-entering your property after a flood as there may be structural damage or contamination as a result of flood water.

Record any damage caused (photo and video) and check with your insurance company as to what is covered by your policy.

## BE WINTER-READY



# Be Winter Ready for Flooding