



HOW DO FLOODS OCCUR?

Floods occur when there is an over absorption of water in the soil. This natural hazard is the most common and the most deadly natural hazard across the world. Floods are typically widespread, affecting a large percentage of a population and requires a long recovery period.

Due to climate change, the atmosphere has become much warmer and we have seen an increased development of tropical disturbances in our region that produces heavy rainfall resulting in floods affecting our communities.

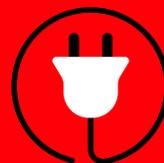
It is becoming increasingly important to ensure that you and your family are prepared for a flood.



HAZARDS FROM A FLOOD

Electrical Wires

Avoid touching electrical items that may be wet or have been in contact with water and do not touch fallen powerlines.



Toxic Chemicals and Dead Bodies

Flood waters can harbor, poisonous chemicals and bacteria that can be deadly to a human.

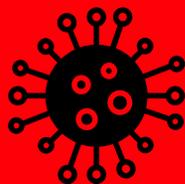
Submerged Debris

Submerged debris can be hazardous when walking through flood waters, therefore wear proper protective gears to do so (i.e. durable water boots and hazmat suits) and take extreme caution when walking through the water.



Mold Spores

Mold can develop after flood waters have subsided, therefore clean-up efforts are essential immediately after waters has subsided to alleviate potential health complications for persons with respiratory ailments and other illness.



PREPARING FOR A FLOOD

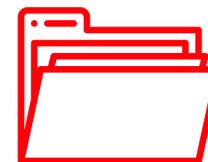


Monitor Weather Conditions

Monitor the weather closely and stay up to date with community plans. Ensure you know whether there is a flood watch or flood warning in place.

Store Important Documents

Store important documents in waterproof containers and above flood level. Also ensure you keep personal identification documents nearby in case of evacuation.



Emergency Go-Bag

Pack an emergency go-bag and be sure to include a first aid kit and personal protective equipment. Also if you have children, include toys and items to help them stay calm.



Identify Your Evacuation Route

Identify the evacuation route for your home and neighbourhood.



Stay Connected

Ensure you have ways to maintain contact with friends and family. Try to keep a list of emergency contacts with you at all times.

