



# FLOOD PREPAREDNESS

Take steps to protect you and your family before a flood hits.

## Secure your home

- Contact your local or Tribal health department to familiarize yourself with community emergency plans.
- Contact to an insurance company about flood coverage as a renter or homeowner.
- Maintain a list emergency numbers in a contact list.
- If you live in a flood zone, raise electric components, furnace, and water heater above the flood zone level.
- Install backflow valves for drains, toilets, and other sewer connections.
- Install sump pumps with back-up power.

## In the case of a flood watch or warning

- Gather emergency supplies (learn how on the next page!).
- Stay informed and listen to local weather reports.
- Turn off power.
- If time allows:
  - Bring outdoor possessions indoors and secure them.
  - Fill bathtubs, sinks, and plastic bottles with clean water.
  - **Do not walk through floodwater.** If water levels begin to rise, immediately go to higher ground.
  - Prepare for evacuation.
  - Make transportation arrangements and make sure the gas tank is full.
  - Check on friends, family, and neighbors that may be isolated or unaware of the conditions, or need help getting to a safe place.
  - Collect important documents like ID cards, insurance cards, and medical records.

## In the case of an ordered evacuation

- Turn off the gas, electricity, and water.
- Disconnect appliances.
- Follow evacuation orders and evacuation routes.
- Take emergency supplies. (See a list on next page).
- Avoid flood zones and stay informed by listening to weather reports.
- Map a safe evacuation route in advance if you have access to a vehicle.

## Transportation Planning

If you need transportation to a shelter, check with local agencies to find out if a contracted service or voucher is available. Call 211 to find a list of transportation options in your area:

- Urban, rural or regional public transit systems
- Transit services for elderly or disabled individuals (County Elderly and Disabled Transportation Programs, Tribal Elderly Assistance Programs, local senior centers, local human services agencies)
- Private providers (cabs, Lyft/Uber, etc.)
- Neighbors, friends or relatives

## Assemble a Disaster Emergency Kit

Gather the follow items if possible or call 211 or visit 211.org for available resources in your area:

- 3-day supply of water (one gallon of water per person, per day)
- 3-day supply of non-perishable food (and a manual can opener)
- Battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- Cell phone and charger
- Portable cell phone battery charger
- Flashlight and batteries
- First aid kit (bandages, gauze, tweezers, disinfectant, gloves, pain relievers, thermometer, etc.)
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask
- Survival blanket (also known as a space blanket)
- Extra cash
- Pocket knife
- Wrench to turn off utilities
- Medications, hand sanitizer, moist towelettes, plastic ties, and garbage bags
- Local maps for evacuation
- Change of clothes (including rain jacket, gloves, hat, etc.)

## Resources

- [readywisconsin.wi.gov/make-a-plan/](https://readywisconsin.wi.gov/make-a-plan/)
- [dhs.wisconsin.gov/climate](https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/climate)



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