

Your home or business on the Isles of Scilly may be at risk of flooding

Do you know what to do?

There are 5.2 million homes and businesses in England at risk of flooding. Don't assume it's not you.

Whether you live on a hill, in a flat or in an area that's never flooded before, flooding can still affect you, putting your home, your possessions and your family at risk. In England there are over 5 million properties at risk of flooding, but most people assume it'll never happen to them. According to recent polling, only a third of people in areas at risk of flooding believe that their home could be at risk.

And with climate change already causing more frequent, intense flooding and sea level rise, we all need to know what to do, should the worst happen.

Knowing what to do in a flood could save your life.

According to the Environment Agency, the average cost of flooding to a home is around £30,000. Flooding also brings a significant risk to life. The mental health impacts of flooding can last for 2 years or more after flooding has happened. Depression, anxiety and PTSD can affect up to a third of people who have been flooded.

But, crucially, taking steps to prepare for flooding, and knowing what to do in a flood can significantly reduce the damages to a home and possessions (by around 40%), reduce risk to life, and reduce the likelihood of suffering from mental health impacts in the future.

Know how to Prepare. Act. Survive.

The good news is that there are some simple things you can do to prepare for flooding. Knowing what to do in a flood could help keep you and your family safe, and save you thousands of pounds in damages and disruption.

What can you do now?

Check if you are at risk of flooding

Sign up to receive the Met Office's [National Severe Weather Warnings](#)

Make a checklist of things you can take. Here's a handy list of things to consider taking with you:

- Insurance details
- Landlord's details
- Spare glasses/contact lenses
- Medication
- Torch and wind-up radio
- Bottled water and food
- Warm clothing
- Baby nappies, food and toys

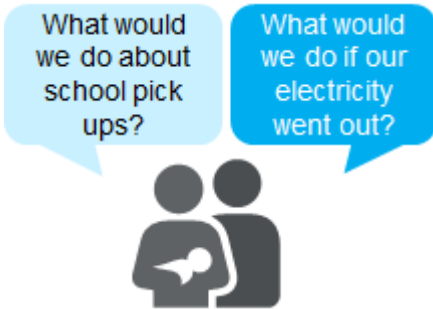




Check to see if your insurance covers flooding

Know how to turn off gas, electricity and water supplies

Chat to your friends and neighbours about how you could help each other



What can you do when you get a flood or weather warning?

Check that your family, neighbours and pets are okay.



Move important things upstairs or to higher shelves, so they don't get covered in dirty flood water.



How can you slow, or stop flood water coming into your home?

You can use plastic bags or pillow cases and fill them with soil to help stop water coming up through your sink or toilet.

You or your landlord could buy flood boards to help stop water coming through the door.

“BeFloodReady” is your new local source of information and guidance on how you can be flood ready. Be sure to check out this new website which hosts a variety of free information and interactive features on how Property Flood Resilience (PFR) measures provide opportunities for you to adapt, prepare and respond to our increasing flood risk: <https://www.befloodready.uk/>

You will be able to browse a range of topics such as Grants and Funding, Reducing you Flood Risk, Getting Support, PFR Training Resources and many more.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

Caroline Douglass, Director of Incident Management at the Environment Agency, said, “Flooding can cause serious disruption to people’s lives. We can’t prevent it, but we can help homeowners to be more flood resilient. Those who are aware of the risk and have done something about it are able to reduce damage to their homes and possessions considerably.”

It’s really easy to take these actions:

- Call Floodline on 0345 988 1188
- Visit www.gov.uk/flood

Who else can you contact about flooding?

Environment Agency 24-hour incident hotline 0800 807060

Floodline 24-hours 0345 9881188 www.gov.uk/flood

Twitter: @envagency

Facebook: facebook.com/environmentagency

Cornwall Community Flood Forum <https://www.cornwallcommunityfloodforum.org.uk/>

National Flood Forum 01299 403055 www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk