PREPARING A FLOOD EMERGENCY PACK

One of the most important things you should do if you live in a flood-risk area is to prepare a flood emergency pack. The pack should contain enough of the following items to meet your needs for at least two days:

- Lighting (a torch including spare batteries and/ or candles)
- Cooking equipment (a gas camping stove or portable barbeque and matches)
- Water (bottled water for drinking and washing)
- Tinned/ long life foodstuffs (check use-by dates regularly and replace stocks if necessary)
- Tin-opener, utensils and cutlery
- Portable radio and spare batteries
- Blankets/ pillows
- Wellington boots, waterproof clothing, spare dry clothing and footwear
- First Aid kit and essential medication (including baby items, if required)
- Personal documents (passports, driving licences, credit cards, insurance policies, mortgage deeds, rent missives, birth certificates etc)
- List of useful phone numbers including your insurance company, emergency services, Fife Council and the SEPA Floodline number (0845 988 1188)
- Mobile phone and charger

INFORMATION DURING A FLOOD

www.fifedirect.org.uk/flooding
m.fifedirect.org.uk - from your mobile phone browser
facebook.com/fifecouncil twitter.com/fifecouncil
Kingdom FM - 95.2 & 96.1
Forth One - 97.3
Tay FM - 96.4 & 102.8
Sky - channel 539, press red
Virgin - press home, select interactive
08451 55 11 99 automated update
08451 55 00 11 faults & repairs
08451 55 00 99 out of hours

REMEMBER

Telephone lines to the emergency services and Fife Council will be extremely busy during a flooding emergency. Only phone them if you really need to.

Up-to-the-minute information is also available from SEPA at www.sepa.org.uk/flooding or via their Floodline 0845 988 1188.

PROTECTING YOUR HEALTH DURING AND AFTER A FLOOD

Flooding can also bring health risks. For information on how to protect yourself go to www.direct.gov.uk or www.hpa.org.uk
BEFORE AN EMERGENCY OCCURS:

- **Insurance** - check your policy provides adequate cover including building replacement, structural repairs and full contents including personal valuables.

- **Maintenance** - maintain your property in good order with brick / stonework properly sealed.

- **Utilities** - learn where to turn off your water, electricity and gas supplies. If you’re not sure where they are, contact your supplier.

- **Sandbags** - buy sandbags or other flood protection devices to block doorways and airbricks. Remember to unblock vents before switching everything back on.

- **Essential items** - identify what you would need to take with you and where you would go and make arrangements for family pets. If you decide to stay in the house but move upstairs, list all the things you will need.

- **Vehicles** - identify a safe place on higher ground where you can move any vehicles.

- **Damage limitation** - move furnishings, household items, foodstuffs and personal possessions upstairs if possible.

- **Evacuation** - if you find yourself in difficulty, alert the emergency services so you can be evacuated. If opting to stay with family or friends, inform the police of your location.

IF YOU LIVE IN AN AREA PRONE TO FLOODING, SOME PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS WILL HELP PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, BELONGINGS AND YOUR FAMILY.

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL
08451 55 00 99

Flooding can happen suddenly and with little warning, leaving you without lighting, heating or a phone line. Several agencies in Fife can provide assistance in the event of flooding. Fife Fire & Rescue can divert flood water away from at-risk buildings or pump out any that are already flooded.

For information on flood protection products such as flood barriers and airbrick covers see the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency’s (SEPA) website: [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk)

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PRACTICAL ADVICE

- **If water is coming into your property**... use a bucket to collect the water and contain it as much as possible with towels.

- **If your ceiling is bulging with water**... try piercing a small hole in the bubble to release the water until a more permanent repair can be carried out. Remember to place a bucket or basin underneath the hole to collect the water.

- **If water is coming through a light fitting**... leave it alone, and call an electrician to isolate the electricity to the light.

- **If drains are overflowing in your street**... call Fife Council on 08451 550099 to report it.

- **If your whole street is under water and every property is affected**... contact the Fife Fire & Rescue Service.

- **If you need sandbags**... you can collect them from council depots or, if you’re at immediate risk of flooding, contact us on 08451 550099 and we’ll deliver them to you. Limited supplies mean we can’t guarantee to respond to all requests. Residents are expected to undertake reasonable measures to protect their properties. You can buy (empty) sandbags at most DIY stores.

Council depots are located at Cupar Trading Estate, Strathore Road in Thornton and Carnock Road in Dunfermline.