A scenic photograph of a flooded landscape at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the water and trees. The water is calm, reflecting the sky and the surrounding greenery. The foreground shows a muddy bank with some sparse vegetation and a wooden post. The background is a vast expanse of water under a blue and orange sky.

# FLOOD GUIDE: PREPARE FOR AND MANAGE A FLOOD SITUATION

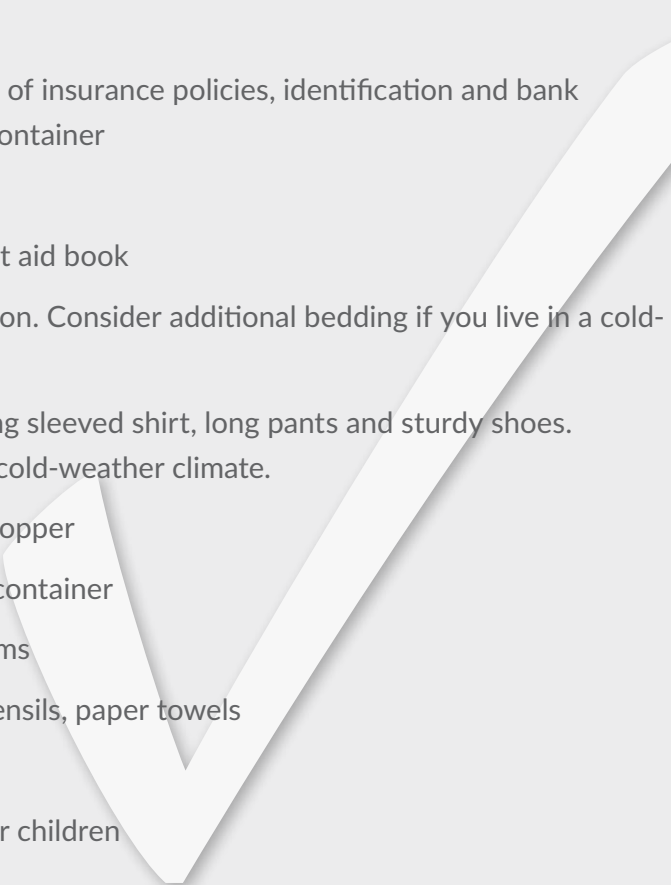
[www.HydroGuard.co](http://www.HydroGuard.co)

# CONTENTS

CONTENTS OF A BASIC EMERGENCY KIT	3-4
FLOOD FACTS: Types of Floods	5-8
FLOOD FACTS: Before a Flood	9
FLOOD HAZARD MAPS	10
PREPARE YOURSELF & YOUR PROPERTY	11
WHAT SHOULD GO INTO THE EMERGENCY KIT	12
YOUR 'GO BAG'	13
FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN	14
YOUR NOTES / 'GO BAG' LIST	15-16

# CONTENTS OF A BASIC EMERGENCY KIT

- Water - four litres of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food - at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food, possibly to be eaten cold and low in salt in order not to make you thirsty
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps
- Prescription medications and glasses, infant formula and diapers/nappies

- 
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
  - Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
  - Cash or cash equivalents
  - Emergency reference material such as a first aid book
  - Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
  - Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
  - Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper
  - Fire extinguisher, matches in a waterproof container
  - Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
  - Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels
  - Paper, pencil and map of the local area
  - Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children
  - Ensure your HydroGuard is in place

# FLOOD FACTS: TYPES OF FLOODS

## “Where is the water coming from?”

### Surface water flooding;

The ground may become saturated and the drains and sewers, which carry away surface water, may not be able to cope, leading to surface water flooding. It is estimated that nearly 4m UK properties are at risk.

In the US hurricanes, winter storms and snowmelt are common (but often overlooked) causes of flooding.

Unlike flooding from rivers, surface water flooding can happen many miles from a river, often in places that people wouldn't expect because it's a long way from a river or stream – it happens simply because there is nowhere else for the rainwater to go.



### **River flooding:**

River flooding occurs when rivers and streams are unable to carry away floodwaters within their usual drainage channels.



### **Coastal flooding:**

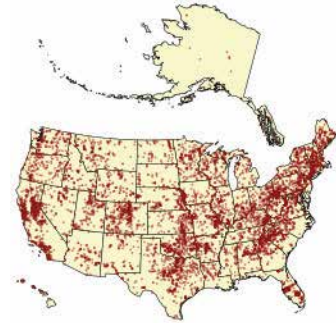
Coastal flooding is caused by high tides coinciding with a low-pressure storm system, which raises sea and tidal water levels, overwhelming coastal defenses.



## Reservoir or dam failure:

The UK has approximately 5,000 reservoirs. Building a dam across a river or stream created many of these. There are a significant number of “large” raised reservoirs in the UK, which may pose a potential risk.

There are nearly 8100 major dams in the United States. The National Inventory of Dams defines a major dam as being 50 feet (15 m) tall with a storage capacity of at least 5,000 acre feet (6,200,000 m<sup>3</sup>), or of any height with a storage capacity of 25,000 acre feet (31,000,000 m<sup>3</sup>).



Location of dams and reservoirs in the US

[Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_dams\\_and\\_reservoirs\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_dams_and_reservoirs_in_the_United_States)]

## Burst water pipes

Mainly but not only in urban areas, burst water pipes can create flash flooding affecting entire streets or neighbourhoods.





# FLOOD FACTS: BEFORE A FLOOD

## Determine whether you are in a flood risk area:

Even if you feel you live in a community with a low risk of flooding, remember that anywhere it rains, it can flood. Just because you haven't experienced a flood in the past, doesn't mean you won't in the future. Flood risk isn't just based on history; it's also based on a number of factors including rainfall, topography, flood-control measures, river-flow and tidal-surge data, and changes due to new construction and development.



Low Risk

But don't fool yourself;  
everyone lives in a  
potential flood zone.



There is no risk free area!



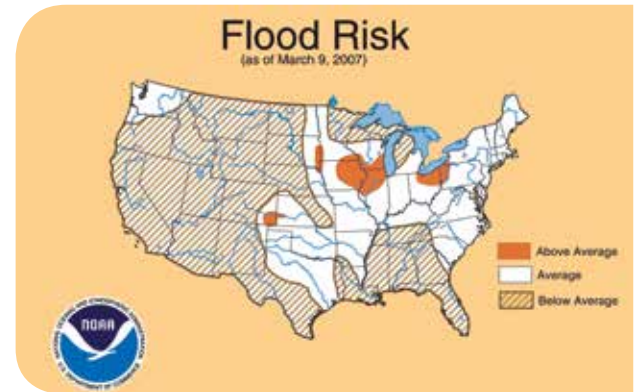
High Risk

# FLOOD-HAZARD MAPS

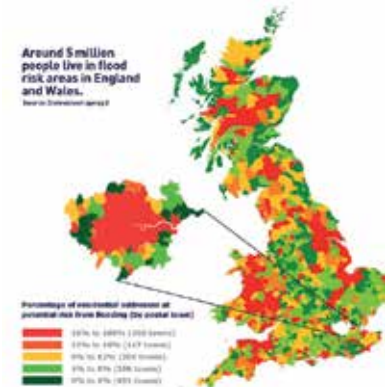
Flood-hazard maps have been created to show the flood risk for your community or area, links to which you can find in the section 'Useful links'. So if you still have the chance don't build your house in a high-risk area.

In a high-risk area, your home is more likely to be damaged by flood than by fire.

Flood insurance is different from country to country; please see links to the relevant pages in the link section.



[Source: [www.noaa.gov/newsroom/stories/2007/s2818.htm](http://www.noaa.gov/newsroom/stories/2007/s2818.htm)]



[Source: [www.homeinfour.com/flood/](http://www.homeinfour.com/flood/)]

# PREPARE YOURSELF AND YOUR PROPERTY FOR FLOODING

- Build an emergency kit and make a family communications plan (see details in the relevant section).
- Avoid building in a floodplain unless you elevate and reinforce your home.
- Elevate the furnace, water heater and electric panel in your home if you live in an area that has a high flood risk.
- Consider installing “Non Return Valves” to prevent flood water from backing up into the drains of your home.
- Check whether you have ‘air bricks’ and either install self-closing bricks or have air brick covers ready to apply in case of flooding. Close all other holes in the walls like cable canals etc.
- Have your HydroGuard ready to stop floodwater from entering the building and seal walls in basements with waterproofing compounds.
- Make sure your drains and gutters are clear.
- Get watertight storage containers for items you do not want to move.



# WHAT SHOULD GO INTO THE EMERGENCY KIT?

**A disaster supplies kit is simply a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency.**

Try to assemble your kit well in advance of an emergency. You may have to evacuate at a moment's notice and take essentials with you. You will probably not have time to search for the supplies you need or shop for them.

You may need to survive on your own after an emergency. This means having your own food, water and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last for 72 hours. Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours or it might take days.

Additionally, basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment and telephones may be cut off for days or even a week, or longer. Your supplies kit should contain items to help you manage during these outages.



## STORE SUPPLIES SO YOU CAN GRAB THEM QUICKLY IF YOU NEED TO EVACUATE; KNOW IN ADVANCE WHAT ELSE YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE.

Take time now to make a list of the things you would need or want to take with you if you had to leave your home quickly. Store the basic emergency supplies in a **“Go Bag”** or other container. Be ready to grab other essential items quickly before leaving. Remember to include specialised items for people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs such as older adults, children, and those with Limited English Proficiency. [You can use page 15 of this booklet to write your list]



### PEOPLE

People and, if possible, pets and other animals or livestock



### PERSONAL NEEDS

Personal needs, such as items for people with disabilities and others with access and/or functional needs



### PRICELESS ITEMS

Including pictures, irreplaceable mementos, and other valuables



### PRESCRIPTION

Prescriptions, with dosages; medicines; medical equipment; eyeglasses; and hearing aids



### DOCUMENTS

Papers, including important documents (hard copies and/or electronic copies, consider cloud storage)

# FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN

- Identify the types of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to flooding and other hazards.
- Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet. These should be measured in tens of miles rather than hundreds of miles.
- Have an out-of-state/county friend as a family contact so all your family members have a single point of contact.
- Make a plan now for what to do with your pets should you need to evacuate.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones, store in mobile/cell phones and make sure your children know how and when to call emergency numbers.
- Check your insurance coverage. Flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance.
- Take First Aid, CPR, and disaster preparedness classes with your family.
- Make it a fun weekend with your family to train your emergency plan.



## MY NOTES / 'GO BAG' LIST:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# MY NOTES / 'GO BAG' LIST:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## MY NOTES / 'GO BAG' LIST:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## MY NOTES / 'GO BAG' LIST:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# HYDROGUARD FLOOD PROTECTION BARRIER



- One size fits all standard doors
- No pre-installation or tools required
- Out of the box and ready to use within 5 minutes
- Suitable for wooden, aluminium and UPVC doors
- Lightweight slider technology, easy to use and store
- Re-usable, so more affordable than sandbags
- Order online at [www.HydroGuard.co](http://www.HydroGuard.co)



HydroGuard extends from 608mm to a maximum door width of 985mm. Overall weight ca. 11kg



[www.hydroguard.co](http://www.hydroguard.co)