



- If you are informed by the Environment Agency, Local Authority or Emergency Services that there is an imminent risk of severe flooding and you are advised to evacuate or prepare to evacuate yourself and your family from your property, you should prepare yourself and your family to move immediately or as directed.
- In the event that you do evacuate your home contact the police to inform them of the address of the evacuated property. Contact the police again when you return

Remaining in your home against advice is dangerous. You should therefore be aware of the following warning points:

- Floodwater is contaminated it contains sewage and other dangerous toxic and hazardous materials.
- Utility supplies cannot be guaranteed, you will almost certainly lose all power, gas, water and sewage supplies.
- To ensure the safety of responding staff and protect them from dangers such as raised man hole covers, the council will not be able to provide services of any kind in flooded areas until the floodwaters have fully receded.

As part of the Emergency Plan Newark and Sherwood District Council may, in some instances, hire security staff for property protection.



Flood-line: 0845 988 1188

Relevant Websites:

Environment Agency: www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/flood/floodwarning/

National Flood Forum:
www.floodforum.org.uk

Newark and Sherwood District Council:
www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk



Newark and Sherwood District Council
Kelham Hall
Newark on Trent
Nottinghamshire NG23 5QX



FLOOD EVACUATION GUIDANCE



**Flooding Emergency
Call: 01636 650000**

IMPORTANT PUBLIC WARNING

Should the Environment Agency decide that there is imminent danger of flooding they will issue a:



- The warning may occur in the form of a request to evacuate your home from the Emergency Services or Local Authority as a result of the water continuing to rise or expecting to rise in the area over the next few hours.
- Evacuations can take place at short notice if water levels rise quickly.
- In response, you should prepare yourself and your family to be evacuated from your property
- If possible try and arrange temporary accommodation with friends or family in an area away from the flooding.
- Do not worry if you do not have other accommodation to go to NSDC will provide safe, temporary shelter for you and your family as well as hot food and beverages, first aid and various welfare support facilities at one of our designated Rest Centres.
- Rest Centres will be located at the Southwell, Grove, and Dukeries Leisure Centres as required.
- NSDC will organise transport for those people who do not have transport of their own.
- Don't forget to take your pets with you; the RSPCA will be available to look after them at the Rest Centre.

DOMESTIC PREPARATIONS

There are a number of things to do to prepare your property in order to minimise the risk of damage to building and contents:

- Ensure you know how to turn off the electricity, gas, oil and water supplies. If the water enters your home, or you evacuate the property, turn them off immediately. This will protect your property from the risk of fire or explosion.
- Identify and keep your important documents such as house insurance, mortgage and passports in a location safe from flooding, better still take them with you.
- Ensure your personal memorabilia and any family heirlooms are in an area safe from flooding.
- Move food and drink stores from downstairs to upstairs so that they will be available to you after the flood.
- Televisions, Videos, Stereos, Hoovers and other minor electrical products can be moved above ground or upstairs.
- Heavier items such as fridges, freezers and washing machines can be moved onto suitable tables or worktops or even upstairs if time allows. But do not injure yourself by lifting heavy objects at this stage; if possible get some help from neighbours and friends.
- Heavy items of furniture such as suites can be moved upstairs last if time allows.
- If using or moving your car, don't try and drive through floodwater and never over ankle deep.

PERSONAL PREPARATIONS

Clothing

- Take some time before evacuating to get some suitable warm clothing prepared. Use several thin inner layers and a waterproof outer layer to keep in the warmth.
- Wear Wellington boots in low water or non-slip footwear in high water but never go barefoot.
- If you have to evacuate through flooded areas, have a change of clothes and shoes in a waterproof bag ready for use. Don't forget wash kit, a towel, bedclothes and sleeping bags if you have them.

Documents and Medication

- Take with you any vitally important items, which you may need such as chequebooks, passports, credit cards, money, mobile phones, keys and any medication or prescriptions you will need.

Safety and Security Issues

- If you are evacuating at night the streetlights may fail or be off due to power cuts. Wear bright reflective clothing and carry a torch.
- Make sure you lock all your windows and doors when you leave your home. **Never plan to stay inside; you will have no heating, power, water or gas and the toilets wont work.** We cannot support families who do not evacuate when requested.
- Keep out of floodwater unless absolutely necessary. Floodwater is contaminated. Do not place unwashed hands near the mouth, or eat, any floodwater-contaminated products.

What Should I do now?

- Give some thought to what you would do if you had to evacuate your property today. Prepare an emergency pack to take with you.



FLOODS

FLOODS (CONTINUED)

In some cases, even these suggestions will not be enough to prevent serious damage from flooding. If you live in a floodplain, consult building professionals to see if they think they need more elaborate mitigation measures (such as elevation).

If you must evacuate, you should:

- Not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Learn and practice driving the local flood evacuation routes. They have been selected because they are safe and provide the best means of escaping flood waters. Flood waters move swiftly and may carry debris that can cause injuries. Remember that 24 inches of water can wash a car away and six inches of fast moving water can knock a person off his or her feet.
- Stay off bridges over fast-moving water. Fast-moving water can wash bridges away without warning, especially if the water contains heavy debris.
- Keep away from waterways. If you are driving and come upon rapidly rising waters, turn around and find another route. Move to higher ground away from rivers, streams, and creeks.
- Heed barricades. Local responders place barricades to warn of flooding ahead or to direct traffic safely out of the area. Never drive around barricades.
- Avoid storm drains and irrigation ditches. During a flood, storm drains and irrigation ditches fill quickly with fast-moving water. Walking in or near storm drains or irrigation ditches is nearly a sure way to drown.

Precautions to follow after a flood.

- Stay out of flooded areas. Flooded areas remain unsafe. Entering a flooded area places you—and the individuals who may need to rescue you—at risk.
- Reserve the telephone for emergencies only. Telecommunication lines (both land line and cellular) will be busy following a flood. A nonemergency call may prevent an emergency call from getting through. It is best not to use the phone unless it is necessary.
- Avoid driving, except in emergencies. Reserve the roads for those who must evacuate and for emergency vehicles.