

Basement Flood Protection Checklist

Take these steps to reduce your risk of basement flooding and reduce the cost of cleaning up after a flood. Remember to check with your municipality about the availability of basement flood protection subsidies. Check with your insurer about discounts for taking action to reduce flood risk.

1. Maintain Your Home's Flood Protection Features at Least Twice Per Year

SPRING FALL

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Remove debris from nearest storm drain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Clean out gutters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Test sump pump(s) and backup power source |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Clean out backwater valve |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Maintain plumbing, appliances and fixtures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Test flood alarms |

2. Keep Water Out of Your Basement

- Correct grading to direct water at least 6 ft. away from your foundation
- Extend downspouts and sump discharge pipes to direct water at least 6 ft. away from your foundation or to the nearest drainage swale
- Install window well covers
- Install window wells that are 4-6 in. above the ground and are sealed at the foundation
- Install water-resistant basement windows
- Install a backwater valve (work with a plumber and get required permits)

3. Prepare to Remove Any Water from Your Basement as Quickly as Possible

- Remove obstructions to the basement floor drain
- Install a back-up sump pump and power source

4. Protect Personal Belongings in Your Basement

- Store valuables in watertight containers or remove
- Store hazardous materials (paints, chemicals) in watertight containers or remove
- Raise electronics off the floor
- Select removable area rugs and furnishings that have wooden or metal legs

Note: Not all actions will be applicable to each home. Completing these steps does not guarantee the prevention of basement flooding.