





# **Be Prepared and Stay Safe!**

Flooding can happen quickly and unexpectedly, especially if you live in a floodplain. Plan ahead to protect your home and family. Follow these tips to stay prepared before, during, and after a flood.



## **KNOW** The Risks

- Determine if you live in a flood-prone area. Check MapleRidge.ca/Flood for flood maps
- · Watch local forecasts and monitor river levels and trail conditions, especially during heavy rainfall
- · Pay attention to warning signs like rising water levels, debris in creeks, and changes in water behaviour
- Understand how floods could impact you: including fast-moving debris, flooding in your home, erosion around your property, and blocked evacuation routes



## **MAKE** A Plan

In the event of an emergency where there is a risk to community safety, residents may be advised to evacuate their homes or shelter in place for safety

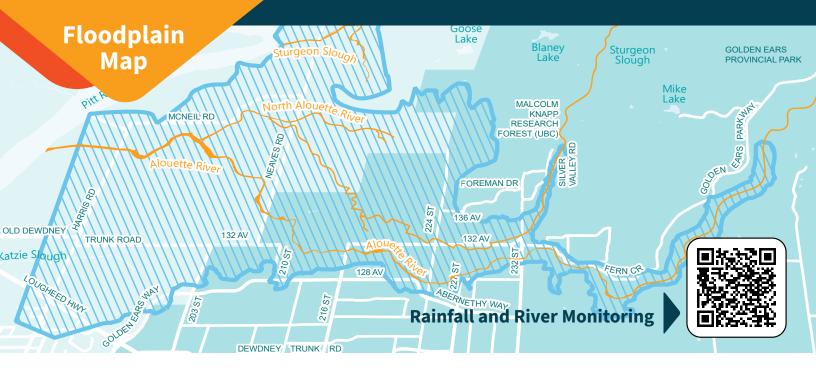
- Decide where to go (friends/family are best), what to take, how to get there, and how to stay in touch
- Learn how to safely turn off electricity, water, and gas
- Stock up on water, food, fuel, and supplies for several days
- Check flood insurance coverage for home and business
- Clear roof gutters and storm drains
- Secure or move hazardous materials to prevent environmental damage
- · Store important documents and records of valuables in a waterproof container or password- protected USB drive
- Know all safe routes to evacuate your home
- Pre-register for Provincial ESS Support. Go to Ess.gov.bc.ca and select 'create profile'



# **GATHER** Your Supplies

- Prepare every member of the household to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours to a week
- Prepare an Emergency Kit that includes:
  - Warm clothing and shelter from the elements
  - Water and non-perishable food
  - Flashlights, phone chargers, wind-up radio, and batteries for power and other utility outages
  - Personal hygiene and first aid supplies
  - Essential items for pets, livestock, babies, and family members with special needs
  - For a full list of items, visit PreparedBC.ca or MapleRidge.ca/EmergencyReadiness







## **What To Do During Flooding**

- Avoid fast-moving water; banks may erode or collapse without warning
- Stay out of flood water; it contains unseen hazards, and 6 inches of flowing water can knock an adult off their feet

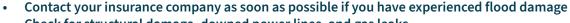


- Never drive through moving water, 12 inches deep can sweep a vehicle away
- Keep an eye on children and pets, as they may not recognize the danger
- Monitor local media for updates
- Follow instructions from public safety officials. If told to evacuate, do so immediately
- Never drive around barricades as they are placed to direct you safely out of danger and prevent further damage
  - If trapped, go to the highest level of your building—avoid basements and attics and signal for help from the roof as a last resort
- Sandbags will be made available if the need arises. Locations of where they can be picked up will be announced through the City's social media channels and alerts.



## What To Do After Flooding

Even after the rain stops, waterways and flood water may still pose a risk. Be cautious and assess the conditions



- Check for structural damage, downed power lines, and gas leaks
- Do not use potentially contaminated water for drinking, cooking, or washing
- Stay out of floodwater, as it may contain debris and hazardous contaminants
- Use protective gear (gloves, boots, goggles) when cleaning up
- Always use generators and gas cooking appliances outdoors and away from windows to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning
- Be aware of electrical hazards; do not touch electrical equipment if standing in water







# Stay Informed



Sign up for Alert Maple Ridge and to stay current on updates, evacuation orders, emergency routes, and shelters.



MapleRidge.ca/Alert

Follow the City on social media @YourMapleRidge 🔞 🚳 🚿



## **Know How To Respond To Emergency Instructions**

#### **Evacuation Alert**

Be ready to leave your home on short notice. Pack your grab and go packs for your loved ones and pets. Review your emergency plan. Make a plan to stay with friends or loved ones. Prepare your home and vehicle prior to departure.

#### **Evacuation Order**

You and your family are at imminent risk. Follow official directions. Leave the area immediately. Turn off appliances (not fridges), lock doors and windows upon exit.

#### **Shelter in Place**

You should stay indoors in a safe location. If you are asked to shelter in place, stay at home or go inside the closest safe building as quickly as possible, take pets inside with you and monitor local media for information updates.

### **More Resources**

MapleRidge.ca/EmergencyReadiness Report a Concern - call 604-463-9581 or at MapleRidge.ca/Report

**Environment** Canada **Active Weather** Warnings and Alerts

**BC River Forecast** Centre: Flood Warnings and **Advisories BC River Forecast Centre** 





### Make A Plan

**For Your Family** 



**For Your Pets** 



**For Your Home** 



