

**PEACETIME
DISASTER
SELF-HELP
ADVICE**



FLOOD!



PREPARED BY

**CANADA EMERGENCY
MEASURES ORGANIZATION**

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE • OTTAWA

BY CONSTANT EVALUATION OF RISING WATER TABLES RESULTING FROM HEAVY RAINS, SURVEYS OF SNOW CONDITIONS IN RIVER DRAINAGE BASINS, METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AND FORECASTS, FLOOD THREATS TO PARTICULAR AREAS CAN USUALLY BE FORECAST.

SUDDEN FLOODING, IN WHICH WARNING TIME IS EXTREMELY LIMITED, CAN RESULT FROM OTHER CAUSES SUCH AS EARTHQUAKES, TIDAL WAVES, HURRICANES, OR BURSTING OF HYDRO OR WATER STORAGE DAMS. IN EITHER CASE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES WILL KEEP AREAS LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS AND RECOMMEND, BY BROADCAST AND NEWS MEDIA BULLETINS, ACTIONS THAT PEOPLE SHOULD TAKE TO LIMIT OR PREVENT DISASTER. DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS BY MUNICIPAL OR PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES WILL BE DESIGNED TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS.

SHOULD A FLOOD THREAT OCCUR...

ELECTRICITY Shut off power in premises in immediate danger of flooding. Don't attempt to do so if the main switch is in a location which has already been flooded. If conditions are wet around the switch box, stand on a dry board and use a dry stick to open the switch. If time permits, remove electric motors and controls, appliances such as stoves, refrigerators, freezers, tools, radios and televisions. If there is time, get the assistance of a qualified electrician. Flooded electrical equipment should be professionally checked before being used again.

HEATING EQUIPMENT Special precautions should be taken to safeguard or minimize damage to heating equipment: electrical, natural gas, or propane. If warning time permits, consult your supplier for special steps to be taken. If your heating equipment has been flooded, do not attempt to put it back into service until it has been thoroughly checked by a competent specialist.

WATER CONTAMINATION If through taste, colour or odour, you have any suspicion that your drinking water has been contaminated, purify it before drinking by boiling, use of purification tablets, or chlorination with a bleaching compound. If the latter

is used, (2-10 drops per gallon) allow to stand for 30 minutes before use. If tablets are used, follow instructions on the package.

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

- Make sure your battery radio is in working condition and readily available to listen to local instructions.
- Have emergency food, water, and medical supplies on hand.
- Move furniture and other belongings to upper floors.
- Remove buoyant products from basements.
- Remove weed killers, insecticides, etc., to prevent pollution.
- Plug basement toilet sewer connection after removing toilet bowl. A linseed bag or wood plug is best.
- If eavestroughs are connected to the house sewer, disconnect them.
- Some homes may be protected by the use of sand bags or polyethylene barriers but special methods must be used for each. Don't attempt this type of protection without specific instructions from your local emergency officials.

If **FLOOD** forces you from your home...

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TAKE YOUR TRANSISTOR RADIO AND SPARE BATTERIES,
AND A FLASHLIGHT WITH SPARE BATTERIES.

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MAKE SURE THAT EACH MEMBER OF THE FAMILY HAS
WARM CLOTHING, WATERPROOF OUTER GARMENTS
AND FOOTWEAR, AND AT LEAST ONE BLANKET.

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TAKE ESSENTIAL MEDICINES, INFANT CARE ITEMS,
PERSONAL TOILETRY ITEMS AND AS MUCH EMERGENCY
SUPPLIES AS YOU CAN.

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EACH MEMBER OF THE FAMILY SHOULD CARRY MEANS
OF IDENTIFICATION.

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TAKE YOUR PERSONAL AND FAMILY DOCUMENTS.

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IF USING YOUR OWN CAR, DRIVE WITH EXTREME CARE.



ADVICE ON EMERGENCY SUPPLIES, FIREFIGHTING, FIRST
AID, AND EMERGENCY SANITATION IS CONTAINED IN
THE BOOKLET: "11 STEPS TO SURVIVAL".

**KEEP THIS LEAFLET IN THE BACK COVER ENVELOPE
OF THE BOOKLET: "11 STEPS TO SURVIVAL". OBTAIN
A COPY FROM YOUR PROVINCIAL EMERGENCY MEAS-
URES/CIVIL DEFENCE ORGANIZATION OR WRITE TO:
PUBLICATIONS, P.O. BOX 10,000 IN YOUR PROVINCIAL
CAPITAL. KEEP "11 STEPS" IN A HANDY PLACE. IT
CONTAINS USEFUL INFORMATION FOR PEACETIME OR
WAR EMERGENCIES.**