



## Floods | Before

### Hazard Preparation Checklist

#### What Can I Do Before a Flood?

- Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio to ensure you receive critical warning information.
- Register for CT Alert.
- Find out if you live in the floodplain. If you do, evaluate your flood risk.
- Purchase flood insurance from the National Flood Insurance Program.
- Plan how you and your family will safely evacuate in the event of a flood or flash flood and ensure all members of your household know where to go if they have to leave or if they cannot get home.
- Plan how you will communicate with family and friends if telephone or Internet systems are down.
- Make a 72-hour emergency kit.
- Plan what you will do to protect or evacuate your pets and/or farm animals.
- Learn how to turn off your utilities.
- Keep insurance policies, documents, and other valuables in a safe deposit box.
- Raise your furnace, water heater, and electric panel to higher floors or the attic if they are in areas of your home that may be flooded. Seal walls in basements with waterproofing compounds to avoid seepage through cracks.

#### If a flood watch or warning is issued:

- Use a NOAA Weather Radio or tune in to your preferred local news source on a portable, battery-powered radio or television.
- Heed the advice of the governor or local emergency management officials.
- Fill your car's gas tank.
- Stock up on prescription medications.
- Check your Disaster Supply Kit and replace or restock items as needed.
- Ensure that you have working flashlights and batteries.
- Turn the refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting to prepare for power outages.
- Keep important documents and valuables in a safe deposit box or in a waterproof container on the highest level of your home.
- Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities; close propane tank valves.
- Review your evacuation plan and ensure your planned route is the same as what is currently recommended.
- If you think an evacuation might be ordered and you have large or numerous animals, consider evacuating them as soon as you are aware of impending danger.
- Store drinking water in clean plastic bottles and pots and pans. Fill bathtubs and sinks with water to use for flushing the toilet and washing floors and clothing (but not for drinking).
- Bring outdoor belongings, such as patio furniture, indoors, and move indoor furniture and valuables to higher floors.