

1. Check with the City's Flood Assistance Coordinator (727-363-9277) on flooding in your area.

- Where does the water come from?
- How bad has it been in the past?
- How bad could it be? (Remember, the next flood can be worse than the last one.)
- What is an appropriate flood protection level? (How high should you prepare for?)

2. Check out your local drainage situation.

- Does water flow away from your house or does it tend to stand next to your walls?
- Is the ditch, stream or storm sewer that takes water away clear of debris or obstructions?
- Do the downspouts from your roof gutters direct water well away from your house?
- Do you have a sump pump? If so, does it direct water well away from your house?

3. Prepare for flooding by doing the following:

- Know the flood safety guidance (see Flood Safety page).
- Mark your fuse or breaker box to show the circuits to the floodable areas.
- Know how to shut off the electricity and gas to your house when a flood comes.
- Make a list of emergency numbers and identify a safe place to go to.
- Make a household inventory, especially of basement contents.
- Put insurance policies, valuable papers, medicine, etc., in a safe place.
- Develop a disaster response plan – See “Your Family Disaster Plan” on [the Red Cross website](#).
- Put cleaning supplies, batteries, camera, waterproof boots, etc. in a safe place.

4. Check the floodplain management regulations in the [City's Land Development Code](#). Follow these rules, get permits for all your work, and report violations to the Building Services Department (727-363-9277).

5. Protect your house with appropriate flood protection measures.

6. Purchase flood insurance coverage.