

## How can you prepare for flooding?

- Find out if you live or work in an area at risk of flooding.
- Sign up for our FREE Floodline Warnings Direct service.
- Download and complete a personal flood plan from our website.
- Buy and install flood products in advance. Visit www.bluepages.org.uk for an independent directory of flood products. Look for the Kitemark to check that a product meets industry standards

## Where to find out more:

- Call us Floodline 0845 988 1188
- Visit our website www.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood
- Email us enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

# Your flood warning service

The Environment Agency provides a flood warning service throughout England and Wales in areas at risk of flooding from rivers or the sea. Using the latest available technology, our staff monitor rainfall, river levels and sea conditions 24 hours a day and use this information to forecast the possibility of flooding. If flooding is forecast, we issue warnings using three different warning types.

### How are warnings issued?

• Direct to you – receive warnings by phone, text, email or fax. Find out if you can sign up for our FREE Floodline Warnings Direct service by calling Floodline or visiting our website.

• **On our website** – view up-to-date flood warning information, monitor the river or sea levels in your area and check out the latest flood risk forecast for your county by visiting our website **www.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood** 

• By calling Floodline on 0845 988 1188 – listen to recorded information on the latest warnings and predictions or speak to an operator for more general information 24 hours a day. Our operators can also provide a quickdial number which gives you faster access to information for your area.

• **Through the media** – you may see or hear our warnings on television and in radio broadcasts. You can also view the latest warnings on BBC Ceefax page 419 and Digital Ceefax page 405.

• Flood Wardens – in some areas Flood Wardens are there to alert and support their local community when a flood warning is issued. Call Floodline to find out if this service is available where you live.

• Sirens/loudhailers – in some areas we use loudhailer or siren systems to warn people that a flood warning has been issued. Call Floodline to find out if this type of service operates where you live.

Know your flood warning service Our new warning service has three types of warnings - Flood Alert, Flood Warning and Severe Flood Warning - that will help you prepare for flooding and take necessary actions.

| Online flood<br>risk forecast  | FLOOD ALERT  | FLOOD WARNING  | SEVERE FLOOD<br>WARNING   | Warning<br>no longer<br>in force  |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| What it means<br>Be aware. Keep an eye on the<br>weather situation.  | What it means<br>Flooding is possible.<br>Be prepared.   | What it means<br>Flooding is expected.<br>Immediate action required.   | What it means<br>Severe flooding.<br>Danger to life.  | What it means<br>No further flooding is<br>currently expected in<br>your area.  |
| When it's used<br>Forecasts of flooding on our<br>website are updated at least<br>once a day.                                    | When it's used<br>Two hours to two days in<br>advance of flooding.   | When it's used<br>Half an hour to one day in advance<br>of flooding.   | When it's used<br>When flooding poses a<br>significant threat to life.  | When it's used<br>When river or sea<br>conditions begin to<br>return to normal.   |
| <ul> <li>What to do</li> <li>Check weather conditions.</li> <li>Check for updated flood<br/>forecasts on our website.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>What to do</li> <li>Be prepared to act on your flood plan.</li> <li>Prepare a flood kit of essential items.</li> <li>Monitor local water levels and the flood forecast on our website.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>What to do</li> <li>Move family, pets and valuables to a safe place.</li> <li>Turn off gas, electricity and water supplies if safe to do so.</li> <li>Put flood protection equipment in place.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>What to do</li> <li>Stay in a safe place with a means of escape.</li> <li>Be ready should you need to evacuate from your home.</li> <li>Co-operate with the emergency services.</li> <li>Call 999 if you are in immediate danger.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>What to do</li> <li>Be careful. Flood<br/>water may still be<br/>around for several<br/>days.</li> <li>If you've been<br/>flooded, ring your<br/>insurance company<br/>as soon as possible.</li> </ul> |