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# Be FloodSmart

## Floods

are the nation's most common and costly natural disaster and they can happen anytime...anywhere.

Floods occur in all 50 states and you can be a victim of flooding, even if you live miles away from water. During Flood Awareness Month in Prince George's County, learn more on what causes flooding and how to protect your home.

## What causes flooding?

In just a few hours, hurricanes and summer thunderstorms can bring heavy rain, which can lead to severe flooding.



# How do you protect your home?

### 1 Alert Prince George's

Whether you live in a high, moderate or low risk area, everyone is at risk for flooding. The County offers a notification service that sends you a text or email in the event of a major flood. To sign up, visit [alert.mypgc.us](http://alert.mypgc.us) For additional floodplain information, contact Salman Babar at (301) 636-2060.



### 2 Purchase flood insurance

Remember, most homeowners insurance does not cover floods. Flood insurance can be purchased through the National Flood Insurance Program, which offers Prince George's County residents up to a **25% discount**.



Just one inch of water in an average sized home can cause **\$25,000** worth of damage. \*\*

Buy insurance before the water starts to rise! It takes 30 days after purchasing flood insurance for the policy to go into effect.



### 3 Make a flood plan

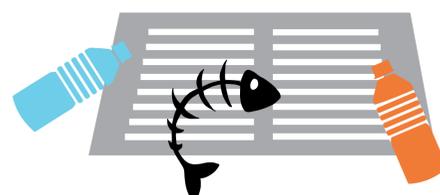
Know evacuation routes and keep important papers in a safe, waterproof place.




Over 20% of flood insurance claims come from moderate-to-low risk areas. \*

### 4 Help prevent local flooding

Keep trash and debris away from storm grates and inlets.



It's important to understand the risk to life and property associated with residing behind levees located in the Anacostia Watershed. Residents who live behind levees are encouraged to understand their risks and prepare accordingly. To learn more, visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Web site at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

\* Source: [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)

\*\* Source: "NFIP, A Real Estate Professional's Guide to Discussing Flood Insurance," FEMA P-2092, March 2020