



FLOOD SAFETY TIPS

Detroit regularly faces the hazards of flooding. Flooding can happen anytime from the spring through the fall— even winter, if warmer than usual temperatures lead to rain rather than snowfall. **Flooding tends to be caused by heavy rain: the faster the rainwater reaches the river channel, the more likely it is to flood.** Heavy rainfall can also overburden the sewer system. There are many types of flooding that can occur in Detroit. From flash floods and river flooding to storm surges from extreme weather down south and ice jams in the winter. Follow this guide to be prepared for a flooding event.

If you are experiencing sewer issues, contact DWSD at (313) 267-8000, or report an incident on the Improve Detroit App or webpage: detroitmi.gov/webapp/improve-detroit-report-issue-online

What To Do BEFORE A Flood

- Create a communications plan
- Sign up for notifications on the Detroit365 app: detroitalerts365.org
- Prepare your family/pets
- Charge your essential electronics
- Assemble an emergency kit with at least 3 days of supplies including:
 - Non-perishable food and water
 - Flashlight and extra batteries
 - Candles
 - Gasoline
 - Medicine
- Prepare your home:
 - Sign up for DWSD's Basement Backup Protection Program if you're in a qualifying neighborhood
 - Remove valuables from the basement and store in a safe place
 - Clean out gutters, disconnect your downspout, and remove debris from your street's catch basin
 - If you are near the river, use sandbags to protect your home
 - Consider hiring a professional to install a "check valve" to help prevent backflow
- Obtain a flood insurance policy (homeowners' policies do not cover flooding)

What To Do DURING A Flood

- Stay informed through the NOAA weather website and the Detroit365 app: detroitalerts365.org
- Follow evacuation orders
- Avoid flood waters. It is NEVER safe to drive or walk through them.
- Practice electrical safety: Take note of electrical outlets that are submerged in water and stay out of water that may have electricity in it!

What To Do AFTER A Flood

- Stay informed through the NOAA weather website and the Detroit365 app: detroitalerts365.org
- Avoid flood waters: Standing water can hide chemicals that can make you sick. It only takes about 12 inches of water to make a car or small SUV float.
- Wait for the “all-clear” before returning to an area impacted by flooding.

What are common symptoms of heat-related illnesses?

There are two main types of heat illness: heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat stroke can be fatal. Call 911 if you're experiencing any of the following symptoms on a hot day:

- Hot, dry skin
- Nausea or vomiting
- Trouble breathing
- Fast pulse
- Weakness or dizziness
- Confusion
- Loss of consciousness
- Heavy sweating and cold, clammy skin
- Muscle cramps
- Lightheadedness or dizziness
- Headache
- Nausea

What Does the City Do During Extreme Heat?

During periods of extreme heat, the City of Detroit designates all recreation centers as cooling centers. Cooling centers have air-conditioning and operate during daytime hours. Recreation centers are free and open to the public during times of extreme heat.

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Want more information? Visit detroitmi.gov/preparedness