

City of Doral - Flood Safety Measures

During of the hurricane season (June 1st – November 30th) the City will advertise the City of Doral Flood Safety Measure (FSM) on a monthly basis via social media and email blast to advise residents and business owners of procedures and measures that should be taken before, during, and after a flood event. The FSM will also be advertised at the beginning of the hurricane season on the City's official magazine the Doral Digest. Additionally the FSM shall be available via the City's web page, www.cityofdoral.com, under the tab "Severe Weather Advisory".

Before a Flood:

- Determine if your property is in a flood zone. For a flood zone determination call the Building Department at (305) 593-6700.
- Purchase flood insurance. If you already have flood insurance, review your policy coverage.
- Monitor your surroundings and report any clogged or damaged storm drains to the appropriate authority.
- Monitor the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, National Weather Service (NWS), local television, radio stations, and/or internet weather station such as www.weather.gov and the City's webpage www.cityofdoral.com.
- Know the difference between a **flood watch** and a **flood warning**. A watch means flooding is possible. A warning means flooding is occurring or will occur soon.

When a Flood is Imminent

- When flood is imminent, the City will provide notices received from the National Weather Service (NWS) and Miami-Dade County Emergency Management via the City's website (under "Severe Weather Advisory" tab), social media, email blast, Code Red calls, and push notifications through the City's 311 App.
- Notices usually provide a description of the event and impacts on the region.
- If a tropical event is imminent, the City shall provide watch, warning and safety information to the City's webpage.
- If event merits, and upon approval by the City Manager, the City will provide sand bags to its residents and business owners at the JC Bermudez Park.
- Record existing conditions (Ex. Pictures).
- Be prepared to evacuate: identify places to go, identify alternative travel routes not prone to flooding, and plan what to do with your pets.
- Pack a bag with important items in case you need to evacuate. Don't forget to include needed medications.
- If advised to evacuate your home, do so quickly.
- If there is any possibility of a flash flood, move immediately to higher ground.
- Protect your property by moving valuables and furniture to higher levels, and by bringing outside possessions indoor.
- Remember to turn off utilities at the main switches and/or disconnect electrical appliances.

During a Flood

- The City will provide notices of flooded areas via the City's website, social media and email blast.
- If required, the City will provide barricades to prevent traffic and pedestrians from going into flooded areas.
- Avoid disaster areas!
- Do not walk through moving water. Water 6 inches deep can knock you off your feet.
- If you have to walk in water, walk where the water is not moving. If possible use a stick to check the firmness of the ground in front of you.
- Do not drive into flooded areas. Follow recommended routes. **DO NOT** sightsee.
- If floodwaters rise around your car, abandon the car and move to higher ground if you can do so safely.
- Do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water.
- NEVER allow children to play around high water, storm drains, and canals.

After a Flood

- Do not return to flooded areas until authorities indicate it is safe to do so.
- Do not visit disaster areas following a flood. Your presence could hamper urgent emergency and rescue operations.
- Travel with care. Watch for damaged roads, downed trees or power lines. Stay away from downed power lines and report to the power company.
- Report broken utility lines to appropriate authorities.
- Do not enter a building if it is still flooded or surrounded by floodwater.
- Do not enter a building that has flooded until local building officials have inspected it for safety.
- Check the property for structural damage. Examine walls, floors, doors, windows, and ceilings for risk of collapsing.
- Check for fire hazards.
- Check for gas leaks. Let building air out to remove foul odors or escaping gas.
- Have an electrician check the electrical system and appliances prior to turning the power on.
- Listen for news reports to learn whether water supply is safe to drink.
- Service damaged septic tanks as soon as possible. Damaged sewer systems can cause serious health hazards.
- Clean and disinfect everything that got wet. Residue from floodwater can contain contaminants, sewage and chemicals.
- Take pictures of the damage. **DOCUMENT** both the building and its contents for insurance claims.

When making repairs always follow local building codes and regulations. Elevate electrical components and utilities installed above potential flood height.