

It's just rain, until it floods.

[NYC.GOV/FLOODPREP](https://nyc.gov/floodprep)

One of NYC's most dangerous weather threats is flooding. Rain can turn deadly. Water from heavy rainfall can rise fast, with little or no warning. Flash floods can turn streets into rivers and trap you within minutes. Basements and below-ground homes are hit first and worst.

Make a Plan

- If you live in a basement apartment, move to a higher floor during heavy rain. Do not wait until water enters your unit.
- Speak with neighbors on higher floors ahead of time so you have a safe place to go.
- Keep exits clear. Have more than one way out. Practice the safest route from your home to safe, high ground in case you have to leave.
- Make a household emergency plan so everyone knows what to do, where to go, and how to get in touch.
- Elevate valuables off of the floor, especially in basements.

Gather Supplies

- Prepare a Go Bag that you can grab in case you need to leave in a hurry. Include essentials like IDs, medications, a flashlight and batteries, chargers, and extra clothes.
- Keep important documents and electronics in waterproof bags.
- Install a water sensor or flood alarm in your basement and/or ground floor.
- Decide what materials can help block water from entering your building, like water barriers, sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting, or lumber. Keep these on hand to protect your home.
- Keep a battery-operated AM/FM radio tuned to a local station so that you can receive and follow emergency instructions even if the power goes out.

Stay Informed

- Text NOTIFYNYC to 692-692 to sign up for free emergency alerts. Then reply with your zip code. You can also visit nyc.gov/notify to sign up.
- If you live in a basement apartment, sign up for Notify NYC's Basement alert group. You'll receive notifications designed to alert New Yorkers living in basement apartments about life-threatening weather conditions. Scan QR code to join.



- Know your flood risk: visit floodhelpny.org to learn your flood risk and how to protect your property.

Staying Safe When It Floods:

- Watch weather alerts closely, especially overnight. Flooding can happen at any time, even while you are asleep. Keep a phone nearby with alerts turned on and volume up if heavy rain is expected.
- If the water outside is up to your ankles, you must move immediately to a higher floor or a safe space above the waterline.
- Never travel through flooded streets, lobbies, stairwells, subway stations, or underpasses.
- Avoid floodwater. It may be contaminated or electrified.

