

Take these steps to reduce your risk of basement flooding and reduce the cost of cleaning up after a flood. Remember to check with your municipality about the availability of basement flood protection subsidies.

1. Maintain Your Home's Flood Protection Features at Least Twice Per Year



SPRING FALL

- Remove debris from nearest storm drain
- Clean out eavestroughs
- Test sump pump(s) and backup power source
- Clean out backwater valve
- Maintain plumbing, appliances and fixtures
- Test flood alarms

2. Keep Water Out of Your Basement



- Correct grading to direct water at least 2m away from your foundation
- Extend downspouts and sump discharge pipes to direct water at least 2m away from your foundation or to the nearest drainage swale
- Install window well covers
- Install window wells that are 10-15cm above the ground and are sealed at the foundation
- Install water-resistant basement windows
- Install a backwater valve (work with a plumber and get required permits)

3. Prepare to Remove Any Water from Your Basement as Quickly as Possible



- Remove obstructions to the basement floor drain
- Install a back-up sump pump and power source

4. Protect Personal Belongings in Your Basement



- Store valuables in watertight containers or remove
- Store hazardous materials (paints, chemicals) in watertight containers or remove
- Raise electronics off the floor
- Select removable area rugs and furnishings that have wooden or metal legs

Note: Not all actions will be applicable to each home. Completing these steps does not guarantee the prevention of basement flooding.