

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about flooding: Health and Safety



This easy read tells you about questions lots of people have about health and safety after there has been a flood.

Who do I speak to about abandoned cars near my home because of flooding?



If abandoned cars are blocking a road or path, phone the Police by dialling **101**.



They might already know about the situation.

Will food grown in my allotment be safe to eat if the area has flooded?



It is safer if you destroy all food grown that has been affected by flooding.



You should not eat the food.

What should I do with spoilt food?



Put spoilt food in a bag and it throw away. You should also do this with food that was frozen but has been at room temperature for more than an hour.



Take it to a recycling centre or put it in your normal bin or food waste bin for collection.

What should I do with bulky items and carpets that have been destroyed by floods?



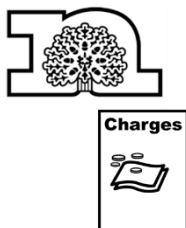
If you have any flood damaged items like sofas and refrigerators, contact your insurance company before throwing them away, otherwise it may affect your insurance claim.



You can also take smaller items to your local recycling centre.

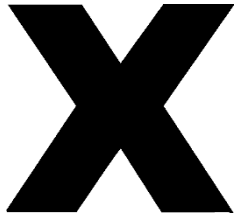


If you cannot transport the items to a recycling centre, contact your insurance company as they might cover the cost of removing items for you as part of your claim.



Or contact your local council if you need them to remove bulky items for you (there is a charge for this.)

Does the council supply disinfectant and cleaning items?



No, the council does not supply disinfectant or cleaning items.



When cleaning, we advise you to use soap and disinfect with bleach solution.



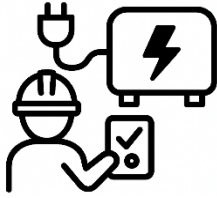
Contact your insurance company as they may be able to help with cleaning services.

Does the council supply dehumidifiers?



No, but you can hire dehumidifiers from hire centres and online.

Most of my electrical items have been damaged by flood water - what should I do?



Make sure all affected electrical items have been fully tested and are safe before using them again.



Contact an electrician for advice.

What other steps could me and my family take to help stop germs spreading?



Wear protective clothing like waterproof boots and gloves when cleaning.



You should always wash your hands with soap and clean water:



- After you go to the toilet.



- Before you eat or prepare food.



- After being in contact with flood water, sewage or items that have been contaminated by flood water.



- After taking part in flood clean-up activities.



Keep children away from flood water.



Wash children's hands often and always before meals.



Wash floodwater affected toys with hot water and disinfectant.



Keep open cuts or wounds clean and covered away from flood water. Wear waterproof plasters.



Harmful bacteria in sewage and can mix into flood water, although it is likely to be extremely low levels.



If you or your family become ill with sickness, diarrhoea, or stomach pain after being in contaminated flood water, you should:



- Speak with your GP.



- Call NHS 111



- Or [visit the NHS website](#) for advice.

Where can I get temporary toilets and water pumps?



You can hire or buy these from hire centres, caravan stores, and hardware shops.

I have seen rats in the flood water what should I do?



Make a note of where they were seen and roughly how many, then contact your Local Council who will give you advice.

How can I find out which roads are closed because of flooding?



You can stay in touch with the local news or look at the [Nottingham Travel Wise website](#) for live road incident updates.

Links in this document

NHS website

nhs.uk/

Nottingham Travel Wise website

www.itsnottingham.info

For plain English web page version of this information, go to:

[Further support | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/flooding-help-and-advice/after-a-flood/further-support>

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