Know. Protect.

Prepare. Act.

Flood events can occur at anytime throughout the year.

Protecting lives and properties is our top priority.

Completing these simple steps will help you before, during, and after a flood.

Know your flood hazard.
Your property may be located within or close to a flood hazard. Find out using these mapping tools.

FEMA’s Map Service Center
https://msc.fema.gov/portal

Centre County’s Public GIS

Protect your property.
Your homeowner’s insurance policy does not cover flood damages. If you are located within a flood hazard zone, you should have a flood insurance policy. Flood insurance policies are not effective until 30 days after the date of purchase. For more information about purchasing a flood insurance policy, visit the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) website at https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program.

- Talk with an insurance agent to determine an adequate level of coverage.
- Basic flood insurance policies cover structural damage only,
and do not cover a home’s contents.

Prepare for a flood.
You never think it will happen, but then it does.

- Discuss and practice as a family an emergency flood plan.
- Pack an emergency kit with food, water, medicines, and personal items that you can quickly access and take with you.
- Identify more than one evacuation route from your neighborhood.

Protect your life.

Do these:

- Evacuate flooded areas and go to the nearest emergency shelter.
- If you cannot evacuate your house, go to the highest floor and wait for emergency assistance.

Don’t do these:

- Do not drive across a flooded road - six inches of water can sweep away a car.
- Do not attempt to retrieve objects caught in flood waters - you risk getting swept away.

Existing homes

- Elevate basement appliances such as hot water heaters, washers and dryers.
- Relocate utilities such as your home’s electrical service panel from the basement to the first floor of the living space.
- Reduce additional surface water damage by adjusting drain spouting away from the house or installing French drains.
- Separate your home’s flood water collection system (submersible pump and piping) from your septic sewer discharge pipes to prevent sewer treatment system overload.

New construction

- Elevate the bottom of the first floor above the measured base flood elevation according to your municipalities flood hazard zoning and/or construction codes.
- Eliminate the traditional basement foundation or crawlspace.
- Install utilities and appliances on the first floor of the living space.
- Install proper venting and consult with your contractor on placing windows and doors in an alignment to allow flood waters to flow through structures, if needed.

Flood proof your home