WHAT TO DO BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER A FLOOD EVENT

Miami Beach is a beautiful coastal community. Our sunkissed island is surrounded by the waters of the Atlantic Ocean and Biscayne Bay. Miami Beach is leading the way locally and nationally to reduce flood risk and we want you to be aware of flood risk from major rain events, hurricanes, and storm surge. It is our goal that all of Miami Beach – whether public roads or private homes – is in the best position possible before, during, and after potential flooding.

BEFORE A FLOOD

- **93% of buildings** in Miami Beach are located in a FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area. Understand your flood risk, know your flood zone, and consider obtaining an elevation certificate to evaluate your property flood risk.
- Make sure you are tuned into Miami Beach social media and local weather alerts. Report any flooding to the city via the free Miami Beach e-Gov app or by calling Public Works Control Room at 305.673.7625.
- **Locate your flood insurance policy** to be ready in the case you may need to file a claim for damage.
- **Protect** your non-residential building with flood barriers.
- **Elevate** mechanical equipment and appliances if you anticipate that waters may enter areas such as your garage.
- **Avoid parking your vehicle in low lying areas**- move it to higher ground, such as a parking garage.
- **Don't litter**. Keep public storm drains clear. Report issues on the Miami Beach e-gov app or call Public Works Control Room at 305.673.7625.
- **Have a storm and hurricane plan**. Protect yourself and your property. Know your evacuation route.
- **Contact** the Building Department 305.673.7610 and Public Works Department 305.673.7080 for technical advice on how to reduce flood hazard.

Turn this page over for more information.

DURING A FLOOD

- **Be smart if you see flood waters!** Stay safe – avoid driving through or coming in contact with flood waters. Six inches of fast flowing water can knock you off your feet and less than a meter of water can float car.
- **Flood water can be contaminated with sewage or other pollutants.** There could also be hazards below the surface, like debris, that you cannot see.

AFTER A FLOOD

- **Report** any flood damage to your insurance agent.
- **Clean and disinfect** everything that got wet.
- **Wash your car,** including the undercarriage, if it came in contact with flood waters.
- **Rinse landscaping** if it came into contact with flood waters.
- **Don't enter a flooded building** until it's been cleared by local authorities.
- **Take pictures of the damage**. Document both the building and contents.
- **Mitigate while you repair.** Make changes to prevent the risk of water damage in the event of any future flood events.
- **Stay Alert.** Continue monitoring the status of a flood or high tide via social media, television or radio, report flooding to the city via the Miami Beach e-Gov app or by calling Public Works Control Room at 305.673.7625.
- If your house is in a flood zone and is damaged and/or improved to an amount greater than 50% of its building market value, the lowest floor will have to be raised to meet the current elevation requirement. **Call the Building Department** at 305.673.7610 to learn more.
- **FEMA financial assistance is available** for repetitive loss and substantial damage properties. Call the Grants office at 305.673.7510 to learn more.

FEMA

10 STEPS TO FLOOD AWARENESS

1. **Coastal cities face flood risk.** Miami Beach is planning and acting to reduce risk.
2. **Protect your property with flood insurance.** Flood damage is not covered by standard homeowner, renter, or wind storm insurance.
3. **Be smart if you see flood waters.** Avoid driving through or coming in contact with flood waters.
4. **Keep your home and belongings dry.** Elevate important mechanical, electrical, and important items.
5. **Build resiliently.** Follow the Florida Building Code and Miami Beach Codes. Understand your elevation by obtaining an Elevation Certificate.
6. **Natural systems protect us from floods.** Beach dunes, the coral reef tract, and open green areas are natural flood barriers.
7. **Have a plan.** We can experience flooding from storms, hurricanes and King Tides.
8. **Keep it clean.** Storm drains lead to beautiful Biscayne Bay.
9. **Financial assistance** can help address damage for repetitive loss areas.
10. **Miami Beach is here to help.** The Building Department offers free technical assistance.