

Preparing for Severe Weather

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council works with the emergency services and other agencies to plan for and help respond to all emergency situations including severe weather. Extreme weather events can impact on our daily lives significantly by leaving us confined indoors, causing power or water outages or even resulting in our homes being flooded. It is therefore important to know what to do to prepare.

This leaflet aims to provide you with tips and advice which you may find useful.

- Sign up to receive weather warning alerts from the Met Office: www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/guide-to-emails or alternatively download their app.
- Find out if your property is at risk of flooding by visiting the Department for Infrastructure's website and searching 'view flood maps': www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk
- Contact the 24 hour **Flooding Incident Line** on **0300 2000 100** to report any type of flooding incident such as problems on the roads, burst mains or blocked drains.
- Before travelling, check weather conditions and think about alternative routes. Allow extra time for your journey. Pack an emergency travel kit and ensure your mobile phone is fully charged. Sign up to receive TrafficWatch email alerts: www.trafficwatchni.com/twni/emailsubscription
- Both NIE Networks and NI Water offer a Care Register. If you or someone in your home is dependent on water supply or electrical equipment for daily care then you can sign up to receive this service. Contact **NIE on 03457 643 643** or **NI Water on 03457 440 088** for further information.
- NI Direct has a web page called 'Be ready for emergencies', which details information on actions you can take in a range of emergency situations: www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/be-ready-for-emergencies



Did you know ...

You should not drive or walk through flood water. Six inches or 15 cm of fast flowing water can knock over an adult and two feet or just over ½ m can move a car. Hidden dangers in flood water may include dislodged manhole covers or water which is contaminated with raw sewage.

In your home

It is useful to have an emergency kit in your home. Suggested contents include battery/windup radio and torch, spare batteries, candles and matches, first aid kit, a phone that doesn't require mains electric, list of useful numbers, list of any medications you are taking, copies of household insurance policies.

Also

- Know how to turn off your electricity supply at the mains.
- Know where your stop valve is and how to turn off your water.
- Make sure your heating is safe and that your house is properly ventilated to reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Follow NI Water's advice on protecting your pipes at www.niwater.com
- During a storm ensure outside objects such as garden furniture, wheelie bins or trampolines are secured.

In your community

Severe weather can leave some people vulnerable. Helping each other a little can make a big difference. Identify family members or neighbours who may need an extra helping hand if severe weather strikes.

Useful contact numbers

- Emergency Services (Police, Fire, Ambulance & Coastguard) - 999 or 112
- Non-emergency calls to the PSNI - 101
- Flooding Incident Line - 0300 2000 100 (24 hours)
- DfI Roads - 0300 200 7899
- DfI Rivers - 028 6638 8529 (Fermanagh) / 028 8225 4915 (Omagh)
- Northern Ireland Water - 03457 440 088
- Northern Ireland Electricity Networks - 03457 643 643
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive - 03448 920 901
- Fermanagh & Omagh District Council - 0300 303 1777
- South West Acute Hospital - 028 6638 2000
- Omagh Hospital & Primary Care Complex - 028 8283 3100
- GP Out of Hours Service (Western Urgent Care) - 028 7186 5195

