



Disaster Plan External Flooding (Code Orange)

Section

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POLICY

The home shall have a plan in place in the event of widespread external flooding due to severe storms, fast ice melts and excessive rainfalls. The location of the home has been determined to be one of the lower lying areas of the city which can be susceptible to flooding.

Procedure

➤ Flooding forecasting

- The Grand River Conservation Authority is responsible for flood forecasting and issuing flood warnings for the city. They monitor weather conditions across southwestern Ontario for threats to the Grand River watershed. As well they also monitor all the connected network of rivers and waterways for water levels and flow rates to predict any forthcoming issues.
- If the GRCA determines flooding is at high risk they will issue warnings to the municipalities that will be affected and communication via the media and local authorities would be contacting the home as part of our community partner agreement with the city.
- Up to date data may also be acquired through the GRCA website www.grandriver.ca. this information is updated hourly.

➤ Flood Messages

- There are three types of warnings.
 - **Flood safety bulletin;** this is issued to advise the public of an increase in river and stream flows that could make the river unsafe for recreational purposes. These flow conditions are not expected to cause major flooding. These messages are sent to news media and local flood coordinators.
 - **Flood advisory messages;** this indicates that a possibility of flooding exists and provides an early warning to municipal officials to go on alert. This is issued to police, local flood coordinators and the media.
 - **Flood warning (action) message;** this indicates that a flood is in progress and the GRCA will provide known details such as flood height and estimated time of arrival at key locations. This message requires action by municipal officials in areas where the flood warning applies.
- Flood messages are posted in the Newsroom section of the GRCA website at www.grandriver.ca

➤ Procedure in the event of external flooding disaster

- The Administrator, Maintenance Manager and DON will gather all information that is available at the time and advise the staff of the potential danger from a flood. It is understood that the is located in one of the lower elevations in the city and maybe susceptible to flooding from natural disasters.
- All residents and staff shall exercise a vertical evacuation and go to the second floor. The dining rooms and common areas may be utilized in this instant.
- The water supply may be affected and or shut off by the city to protect its safety from flooding contaminates. Therefore upon notice of a flood warning, staff shall be instructed to fill containers for potable drinking water and other containers such as the second floor bath tub for resident care.
- Toilets may not be functioning during a flood event especially ones closer to the flood water level such as the first the first floor. However toilets on the second floor may be useable. A quick test will be to flush the toilet to see if the water goes down. If it does not go down then it is likely the flood waters have flooded the sewer mains completely.
- The Maintenance Manager or designate shall then turn off the main electrical disconnect to shut off the electricity to the entire building to prevent fires and electrical shorting.
- The city's Electric Utility provider may already have shut the section of the city down pending the flooding event if it is expected to be severe.
- The home's back -up generator must not be started.
- Supervisory staff must ensure that all exit doors off the second floor be monitored for exit seeking residents until the power has been restored and the door security system reactivated.

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<i>Dahlia Burt - Gerrans</i> Dahlia Burt-Gerrans Internal Approval		Revised Date: February 16, 2018	
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