



## Ipswich Disaster Management **Flood Action Guide** [www.iccdm.org.au](http://www.iccdm.org.au)

If your area is subject to flooding, the following advice could help save your property or your life. Please ensure you and your family read the whole of this guide.

### Know Your Local Flood History & Plan

Ask your council or State/Territory Emergency Service: What the terms 'major', 'moderate' and 'minor flooding' mean to your area and at what 'official river height' your home becomes isolated or inundated. Details of local flood plan, whether you may need to evacuate and how to get to the nearest safe location  
Emergency Kit - Check List During and after a flood you will need:

- A portable radio and torch with fresh batteries.
- Candles and water proof matches.
- Reasonable stocks of fresh water and tinned food.
- A first aid kit and basic first aid knowledge
- Good supplies of essential medication.
- String shoes and rubber gloves.
- A waterproof bag for clothing and valuables.
- Your emergency contact numbers. (STATE/TERR EMERGENCY SERVICE, POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE (000), LOCAL COUNCIL)

### On Flood Warnings

- Listen to your local radio/TV for further information.
- Check that your neighbours know of the warning.
- Stack furniture and possessions above likely flood level, on beds and in roof (electrical items on top).
- Move garbage, chemicals, poisons to a high place.
- Secure objects that could float and cause damage.
- Protect/relocate valuable stock and equipment.
- If on the land, move livestock to high ground.
- Check your car and fill it with fuel.
- Check emergency kit and fresh water.



## If You Need To Evacuate

You may be advised to evacuate by local authorities, but if you leave of your own accord, tell police or State/Territory Emergency Service (S/TES) and your neighbours. In either case, take the following actions:

- Empty freezers and refrigerators leaving doors open (to avoid floating and subsequent damage).
- Collect and secure your personal valuables, papers, money, photo albums and family mementos.
- Turn off power, gas, water, and take your emergency kit.
- Whether you leave or stay, place a sandbag in the toilet bowl to prevent back-flow of sewage into your home.

## During And After The Flood

If you remain in your home, or when you return, take these precautions:

- Keep your emergency kit safe and dry.
- Do not eat food which has been in contact with flood water and even boil all tap water until supplies have been declared safe.
- Don't use gas or electrical appliances which have been flood-affected, until they have been safety-checked.
- Beware of snakes and spiders which may move to drier areas in your house.
- Avoid wading, even in shallow water, as it may be contaminated - if you must enter shallow
- Check with police for safe routes before driving anywhere and don't enter water without checking depth and current.
- Keep listening to your local radio and TV station and heed all warnings and advice.

Brought to you by your State/Territory Emergency Service. Developed, sponsored and published by Emergency Management Australia.