1) Before A Flood—Make A Plan

- Make an emergency evacuation & communication plan for family and pets, including identifying where you will meet in an emergency.
- Talk with your neighbors about emergency plans, especially for those with special needs.
- Know where you and your loved ones will stay if your home is flooded.
- Check with your insurance agency about buying a flood insurance policy. Homeowners insurance does not cover damage from flooding.
- Learn the safest route from home, work, or school to higher ground or your emergency meeting spot. Keep a gas can filled for emergencies.
- Gather important documents, including a list of valuables, and keep it off site, or in a waterproof container in your emergency supply kit.

Assemble A Flood Emergency Kit

- rain gear
- sturdy shoes
- sleeping bag and bedding
- food & provisions for all family members, including pets
- extra pair of glasses and/or contact lenses
- battery-powered radio with fresh batteries
- cell phone & charger
- whistle to signal for help
- flashlight with fresh batteries

First Aid & Medications

- a week’s supply of prescription medications
- non-prescription medication
- first aid kit
- hand sanitizer & hand wipes
- food & provisions
- soap & toiletries
- change of clothing

Emergency Communications

- a list of family physicians and important medical information
- photocopies of important documents, including homeowners insurance
- identification cards, credit cards, cash & checks
- powered radio with fresh batteries
- extra pair of glasses and/or contact lenses
- identification cards, credit cards, cash & checks
- powered radio with fresh batteries
- extra pair of glasses and/or contact lenses
- identification cards, credit cards, cash & checks

Prepare Your Home
If you live in a high-flood risk area:

- Elevate your furnace, water heater, electrical panel and other utilities. Secure propane, kerosene & oil tanks.
- Store cleaning supplies and other hazardous materials up high so they will not be carried away by flood waters.
- Install check valves to prevent water from backing up drains.
- Have emergency waterproofing supplies, such as sandbags, and know how you can install them quickly, easily and effectively.

Securing Boats and Personal Watercraft (PWC) for a Flood Event

- Remove sails, flags, and secure everything exposed to wind and use additional lines to secure the vessel.
- Boats and PWC stored in low lying areas adjacent to the water should also be secured in place, both when trailered and set on stands, as elevated water levels and wind conditions may shift and damage boats that are afloat, but in a flood zone.
- Floating docks are relatively safe from floodwaters, as long as the poles retaining the docks are of sufficient height to accommodate the added elevation of the surge.

2) During A Flood—Be Ready to Act

- Stay informed by tuning into local radio, television and weather reports. Battery-operated radios are affordable and widely available.
- Disconnect appliances if it is safe. Don’t go into any room if water covers electrical outlets or power cords.
- If told to evacuate, do so immediately. Be sure to lock your home.

BEWARE OF FLOODWATER!

If your house is surrounded by floodwater, move to the highest possible point and call 911.

Do not drive into floodwaters. Two feet of water will carry your car away. Turn around—don’t drown!
Do not stand on bridges or near the shore during a flood.
Do not sightsee during a flood! You could put yourself and others in danger.
Floodwater may be contaminated. Do not wade or swim in it!

3) After A Flood—Returning Home

- If advised to evacuate, wait until you are told it is safe before returning home.
- Stay informed—tune into local news for information on road closures, boil water alerts, etc.
- Exercise caution when entering flood-damaged buildings. Buildings may not be safe.

If your home has been flooded:

- Do not turn on electrical appliances until checked by a licensed electrician.
- Care should be taken to drain water gradually from the building to avoid structural damage.
- Walls and floors should be disinfected or replaced to avoid growth of mold and mildew.
- Well water should be tested for bacteria before drinking. Call UCDOH 845-340-3009 for a complete list of certified labs.

Flood Recovery References

This guide was produced using the following resources. Please visit these websites for more information on flood preparedness.

NY Extension Disaster Education Network: http://emergencypreparedness.cce.cornell.edu
National Flood Insurance Program: https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/
NYS Office of Emergency Management: http://www.dhses.ny.gov/oem/ or prepare.ny.gov
First Steps to Flood Recovery: https://www.extension.purdue.edu/floodpub/
FEMA Flood Preparedness: http://www.ready.gov/floods
Disaster Preparedness and Pets: http://wmdart.org/pet-preparedness/
American Red Cross Repairing Your Flooded Home: http://www.redcross.org/images/MEDIA_CustomProductCatalog/m4540081_repairingFloodedHome.pdf

This publication was prepared by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County for NYS Water Resources Institute and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Hudson River Estuary Program, with support from the NYS Environmental Protection Fund. CCE provides equal program and employment opportunities.
Kingston’s Waterfront

One of the wonderful things about living in the City of Kingston is being near the water. The Hudson River and the Rondout Creek are part of what makes the City such a special place to live, work and play. But, the river and the creek put some areas of the City at risk of flooding.

Flooding is not just a problem for people who live near the water. All residents should be aware of risks and know how to find information and help when flooding occurs. Whether you live in the flood zone or not, being prepared for an emergency is important. Keep this guide handy so you know where to find help if you need it.

Know Your Risk and Stay Informed!

Know Your Zone: If you live close to the Rondout Creek or the Hudson River, you may live in the flood zone and you should be prepared to secure your home and/or business and evacuate quickly. If you’re not sure if you are at risk, check the map in this guide. Flood maps are also available through FEMA at: https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home

Emergency Notifications will be made via radio and automated phone notification system. New residents and cell phone users can opt in on the City’s website at: http://kingston-ny.gov/Swift911. You can also register for email and text messages at this site.

Sign up for NY Alert to get notified for emergencies in your area at: https://alert.ny.gov/

Follow the Kingston Fire Department on Twitter at: www.twitter.com/KingstonFD

Check with your school district to learn where to locate emergency notifications and school closings

Finding Help

Emergency Shelter
Andy Murphy Midtown Neighborhood Center
467 Broadway
Kingston, NY
(845) 481-7330

Pet Shelter
Contact: UCART
Ulster County Animal Response Team
(845) 359-1258

Safe Parking for Cars
Cornell Street Parking Lot
Enter from Cornell Street

Evacuation Routes

1. West of Wilbur Ave. take Wilbur Ave. to Greenkill Ave. to Washington Ave.
2. Between Broadway and Wilbur Ave. take Wurts St. to Broadway to East Chester St. to Flatbush Ave.
3. Between Tompkins St. and Broadway take Broadway to Koenig Blvd.
4. East of Tompkins St. take Abruyn St. to Delaware Ave. to Koenig Blvd.