

FLOOD AWARENESS INFORMATION

Whilst river flooding is a higher risk for some properties in Hannington Wick, all properties across the village can be at risk of surface water flooding during heavy or prolonged rain. This type of flooding can happen very quickly and with little to no warning, and the impact on households affected is just as devastating as river flooding.

Whilst each household is ultimately responsible for protecting their own property and addressing any flooding, the information below has been put together to support residents in being prepared and finding help if needed. This is intended as a helpful guide rather than a complete list. Everyone is encouraged to take any additional steps they feel are necessary for their specific circumstances.

PREPARE FOR FLOODING

1. Stay Informed:

- ≈ Check whether your property is in a long-term flood risk area, check flood alerts and sign up for flood warnings at;
<https://www.gov.uk/browse/environment-countryside/flooding-extreme-weather>
- ≈ Regularly monitor forecasts and updates from weather channels and Swindon Borough Council on websites and social media.

2. Obtain Protective Equipment:

- ≈ **Sandbags:** Swindon Borough Council may provide sandbags during severe flooding, though supplies can be patchy and difficult to obtain. It is, therefore, recommended that you purchase your own sandbags, flood sacks or inflatable barriers in advance.
- ≈ **Flood Barriers:** Consider fitting door barriers or guards, which can be more effective than sandbags for keeping water out of your home.
- ≈ **Pumps and Water Removal Tools:** Consider investing in water pumps to remove floodwater from your property.

3. Create a Flood Kit:

- ≈ Include a torch, batteries, mobile phone charger, essential medicines, bottled water, important documents and list of important contact numbers.
- ≈ Store these in a waterproof container and keep them accessible.

4. Flood-proof Your Home:

- ≈ Consider installing non-return valves on drains and water pipes to prevent sewage backflow. Especially if there is a history of flooding in your property or close by.
- ≈ Move electrical appliances and valuable items to higher floors if flooding is forecast.

5. Plan Ahead:

- ≈ Know your local emergency contacts and the safest evacuation routes from your home.
- ≈ Talk to your insurance provider about flood coverage and keep their contact details handy.

ACTION DURING A FLOOD

- ≈ **Act Quickly:** Block doorways and other entry points with sandbags or flood barriers.
- ≈ **Safety First:** Avoid walking or driving through floodwater - it can be deeper and more dangerous than it looks.
- ≈ **Protect Utilities:** If safe, switch off electricity, gas, and water supplies to reduce the risk of damage or injury.
- ≈ If your house or property is at immediate risk of or is being flooded, you can call the **Fire Brigade on 999**. But see www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/flooding for advice on when the Fire Brigade can help. Typically, they will only attend a property "in certain situations, such as if there is risk to life, or water is affecting electrics, leading to a risk of fire. Please only call 999 if these risks exist".

WHERE TO OBTAIN ASSISTANCE AND SUPPLIES OR HELP AFTER FLOODING

Swindon Borough Council:

- ≈ For sandbag availability and advice, call **01793 445500**.
- ≈ Report blocked drains or standing water using their [online tool](#) or call **01793 445500**.
- ≈ [Swindon Borough Council Flooding Advice](#)

Borough councillors:

Vijay Manro - vmanro3@swindon.gov.uk
Steve Weisinger - sweisinger@swindon.gov.uk
Nick Gardiner - ngardiner3@swindon.gov.uk

Floodline:

- ≈ Call **0345 988 1188** (available 24/7) for expert advice or to report a flood.

Thames Water:

- ≈ Contact **0800 316 9800** for drainage or sewer blockages.

Local Retailers and Online Stores

- ≈ Purchase sandbags, pumps, and other flood defence equipment from local suppliers or websites like B&Q or Screwfix.

OTHER SOURCES OF HELP AND ADVICE

[Project Floodwise from Wiltshire & Swindon Prepared](#)

[Flood Mary \(an independent flood advice site\)](#)