

Important Things to Remember During Flood Recovery

We will get through this together, safely!

Use the Right Safety Gear:

- Wear rubber gloves, waterproof boots and goggles while in contact with floodwater.

Use Generators Safely:

- Portable generators create high levels of deadly carbon monoxide gas. Never use a generator in an enclosed area or indoors.

Water Safety:

- Floodwaters can be harmful and contaminated.
- Use bottled water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene.
- Keep any open cuts or sores that will be exposed to floodwater clean with soap and antibiotic ointment.
- Do not allow children to play in floodwater areas.
- Well water could be contaminated by the floodwaters. Only drink after it's been tested.

Electrical:

- NEVER turn power on or off yourself or use an electric tool or appliance while standing in water.
- Watch out for fallen power lines.
- If you have standing water in your home and can turn off the main power from a dry location, then go ahead and turn off the power.

Food Safety:

- When in doubt, throw it out!
 - Does it have an odor, weird texture or color?
 - Has it been out of the refrigerator or has the power been out for more than 4 hours?
 - Has it been in contact with floodwater?

If yes, throw it out.

Vaccines:

- There will be hazards in the water and environment.
- There is risk of injury and disease.
- Make sure children and adults are up-to-date on recommended vaccines, including a tetanus booster.

Prevent Mold Growth:

- Throw away anything that cannot be cleaned or dried quickly.
- Remove or discard drywall and insulation that has been contaminated with flood waters.
- Clean surfaces with detergent or a bleach solution (1 cup bleach with 1 gallon of water).
- Take breaks when cleaning with chemicals, so you don't get sick.



<https://cph.uky.edu/flood-response-recovery-resources>

