



FLOODING

Any area is likely to be impacted by a flood, not just those in a floodplain. Take into consideration regional vs. localized vulnerabilities to your PHA:

- Regional risks: Hurricanes, severe storms, heavy rain, watersheds, high water tables.
- Localized risks: Storm surge, wind damage, coastal damage/erosion, power outages, riverbanks, and other low-lying areas prone to flooding.



Flood Preparedness

- Conduct a risk assessment and make a plan for **each type** of disaster.
- Pay attention to weather reports, flood watches, and flood warnings.
- Consider improvements to Public Housing properties to potentially mitigate flooding issues such as:
 - Maintain proper water runoff & drainage
 - Improve lot grading
 - Reduce impervious surfaces around the property
 - Elevate utilities and service equipment
- Housing inspections can be important for identifying risks as they can identify buildings that are at greater risk of damage due to building construction, maintenance, and other factors that create a vulnerability to water intrusion.
- Use this information to inform your Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP).



Resident Education – Residents of multifamily properties are essential participants in disaster preparedness and recovery.

- In situations where water intrusion can be anticipated as a likelihood (e.g. hurricane and or riverbanks rising due to heavy rainfall), communicate with residents on disaster preparedness, such as:
 - Unplug and move electrical equipment to a higher elevation within the residence.
 - Elevate or remove all items from the floor when possible.
 - Take advantage of community preparedness activities, such as free sandbag filling locations.
 - In case evacuation is required, gather supplies such as:
 - Nonperishable foods
 - Potable water
 - Cleaning supplies
 - First aid supplies
 - Cleaning supplies and towels
 - Important documents (secured in a fireproof and waterproof container if possible)
 - Be familiar with evacuation routes and have an evacuation plan that includes transportation and gas or other energy sources for such eventuality.



Resident Tips and Tricks for Disaster Preparedness

- Clean and fill bathtubs with clean water in case of power outage.
- Have a bucket available for toilet flushing and/or water removal.
- Fill clean jugs with potable water and freeze them to use as drinking water and/or keep perishable items cold in case of power outage.
- Fill and safely store propane tanks and gas grills for food preparation in a power outage.



- **Flood Risk Assessment Resources**

- [Ready.gov's Risk Assessment page](#) for detailed guidance and resources
- Multi-hazard [Mapping Information Platform](#) – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- [Flood Map Service Center](#) – FEMA
- [Hurricane](#) – FEMA
- [Landslide Hazards Program](#) – USGS



- **Following a Flood Disaster – Funding Recovery**

Before other resources are used, proceeds from a PHA's **insurance** should be the primary source of funding for recovery. After a disaster, PHAs should **immediately** process **insurance claims**.

Review the funding sources below and the following:

- The [Public Housing Agency: Applying for FEMA Public Assistance](#) factsheet.
- [FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants](#)

Fund	Source	Summary
Insurance	PHA	PHAs are required to have adequate insurance to promptly cover the cost to restore, reconstruct, and/or repair any damaged or destroyed public housing property.
Flood Insurance	PHA	All public housing properties located in a flood plain (100-year flood plain) must maintain adequate flood insurance to restore damaged public housing property.
FEMA Public Assistance (FEMA PA)*	FEMA	PA is grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the restoration and mitigation of disaster-damaged facilities, including public housing.
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)*	FEMA	FMA provides funds for projects that reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings insured by the National Flood Insurance Program.

*These FEMA programs are managed by states, **territories, and tribal nations**, and **funds are distributed to local entities such as cities, counties and PHAs**. Additional information can be provided by local and state emergency management offices.