

## ▶ SAFETY FIRST!

- Airbricks and air vents should only be sealed during flood conditions.
- Ensure that they are re-opened immediately the flooding subsides.
- Do not use electrical or gas appliances if your house is flooded or you have sealed airbricks or air vents.

## ▶ FLOOD PROTECTION ADVICE



## ▶ Babergh District Council

# ▶ FLOOD PROTECTION ADVICE ACTION ADVICE

## ▶ HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HOME AND POSSESSIONS

Only in exceptional circumstances is Babergh District Council able to offer limited assistance. You must protect your own home. There are household protection products available which help to stop water and effluents entering your home in the event of a flood.

## ▶ THE EMERGENCY KIT

This cost-effective kit contains everything needed to protect the home from the worst effects of flooding. It is compact and easy to store, and no permanent fixtures are needed. It is simple to apply, with no specialist or technical knowledge required.

It includes: -

1. Perimeter sealant for doors and windows
2. Wallshield preparation for water resistance
3. Easy to use sealant gun with 3 nozzles
4. Door barrier and emergency gel
5. 4 air brick covers
6. Flood wrap for additional security to doors/windows

The kit is easy to use, compact to store. Protects walls, airbricks and doorways. Can even be used in wet conditions.

Economical, More effective than sandbags, environmentally friendly, using low-waste foil packs rather than traditional, slow to degrade plastic tubes.

## ▶ HANDY TIPS!

- Water finds the easiest way into your home. Very often, that's through airbricks and low-level vents. Block doors, airbricks and vents. Do as much as you can in daylight hours.
- Turn off electricity and gas as soon as your property begins to flood.
- Try to put your valuables out of harm's way. Take warm clothes, hot drinks, food, essential medication, a torch and a battery radio upstairs or to a safe place.
- Secure and seal all your rubbish and chemicals.
- Try to keep warm and dry and check on your neighbours.
- Move vehicles to higher ground if it is safe to do so.
- Remember your pets and animals. Identify somewhere safe to take them if flooding occurs.
- Tie up curtains, pile up furniture and roll up carpets if you can.
- Continue to watch water levels, listen to weather forecasts and ring Floodline for updates.
- It is important to adequately insure your property and contents before the event – Damage through flooding can be costly!

**Protect your home from flooding**

**ACT NOW!**

## ▶ KEEP ALIVE TO FLOODING!

**Local information on radio and TV**

- Classic Gold Amber 1170 & 1271 am
- BBC Radio Suffolk 95.5, 103.9 & 104.6
  - SGR FM 96.4 & 97.1
  - ITV Teletext on page 154

The 24-hour National Floodline number is:

**0845 988 1188**

For information on flash flooding – tune into your local radio station

If you are in an area that's likely to flood, you can join the Floodline service, and they will call you if they predict dangerous water levels. But remember that the Environment Agency cannot do anything to help individuals.

You need to take action yourself.

## ▶ VENTGUARDS

Re-usable, easy to fit covers are available for your airbricks. Ventguards have a stainless steel plate backed by a special rubber-sealing layer that simply screws into place when flooding threatens.



## ▶ FLOODGATES

Floodgates have an expanding metal frame that fits 99% of domestic doorways in seconds. In most cases the thick rubber cover moulds itself to the doorway, but where the surrounding surfaces are very rough a non permanent



## ▶ PERMANENT FITTINGS

If your home is threatened by flooding regularly or you are in an area of particularly high risk, you might like to consider more permanent measures. There are lots of systems that clip or slot into place. Make sure that the one you choose is suitable for your property, has been properly tested and is professionally installed. Some products have the BSI Kitemark.

# ▶ FLOOD PROTECTION ADVICE

## ▶ WATER-ABSORBENT FLOODBAGS

These easily stored and handled bags each weigh around 600g each and have a 5-10 year shelf life. They absorb 25 litres of water in a few minutes and then act as a water-barrier. Keeping a box of 20 FloodBags in your cupboard is the equivalent to storing 20 sandbags weighing half a tonne in your living room.

## ▶ WHERE CAN I GET THESE FLOOD DEFENCE PRODUCTS?

All these products are available for purchase from:

IFDP Ltd.  
16 Mere Street  
Diss  
IP22 4AD

Tel: 01379 644033

[www.IFDP.co.uk](http://www.IFDP.co.uk)

and other flood product suppliers.

A range of other products are available on the website.

## ▶ WHAT ABOUT SANDBAGS?

Sandbags are heavy, ineffective and you may not be able to get them in times of need. If you are unable to acquire sandbags, then bin liners or plastic carrier bags filled with sand or earth but avoid sharp objects.

These builder's merchants hold stock of sandbags and sand for purchase:

- ▶ Rigeons Ltd, 39 Knightsdale Road, Ipswich (01473 241200)
- ▶ Collier & Catchpole Ltd, Wherstead Road, Ipswich (01473 689605)
- ▶ Building Base Ltd, Lady Lane Industrial Estate, Hadleigh IP7 6BQ (01473 822318)
- ▶ M.T.M Plant Hire, Chilton Industrial Estate, Sudbury (01787 312007) (Sand bags only)
- ▶ Martin Build Base, Chilton Industrial Estate, Sudbury (01787 373617) (sand only)
- ▶ Rigeons Ltd, off Windham Road, Sudbury (01787 881777)

**Protect your home from flooding**

**ACT NOW!**