

# Flood Warning Symbols

What do they mean?



When you receive notification of a flood alert or flood warning it's important that you know what they mean and what you need to do:



**FLOOD  
ALERT**



**FLOOD  
WARNING**



**SEVERE FLOOD  
WARNING**



## Flood Alert

### What does a Flood Alert mean?

*Flooding is possible and you should be prepared*

### When is an Alert issued?

*2 hours to 2 days in advance of flooding*

### What causes an Alert?

- Forecasts indicate that flooding from rivers may be possible
- Forecast of intense rainfall for rivers that respond very rapidly
- Forecasts of high tides, surges or strong winds

### What should you do?

- Be prepared to act on your flood plan
- Prepare an emergency flood kit of essential items
- Avoid walking, cycling or driving through flood water
- A Flood Alert could be upgraded to a warning so check for updates regularly

### Damage to your pet's beds, toys etc.

If flooding ruins your pet's bedding and toys then this should be covered by your home contents insurance. All insurance policy wordings vary so its important that you check yours to see what's covered.



## Flood Warning

### What does a Flood Warning mean?

*Flooding is expected and immediate action is required*

### When is a Flood Warning issued?

*half an hour to one day in advance of flooding*

### What causes a Flood Warning?

- High tides and surges combined with strong wind
- Forecasted heavy rainfall potentially causing flash flooding of rivers
- Forecasted flooding from rivers can help move your animals.

### What should you do?

- Protect yourself and your family
- Move family, pets and valuables to a safe place
- Turn off gas, electricity and water supplies if it is safe to do so
- Put flood protection equipment in place
- Help others if you can
- A Flood Warning could be upgraded to a severe flood warning so check for updates regularly



## Severe Flood Warning

### What does a Severe Flood Warning mean?

*Severe flooding and danger to life*

### When is a Severe Flood Warning issued?

*When flooding poses a significant risk to life or significant disruption to communities*

### What causes a Severe Flood Warning?

- Actual flooding where the conditions pose a significant risk to life and/or widespread disruption to communities
- Observations made in flooded locations
- A breach in defences or failure of a barrier that could cause significant risk to life

### What should you do?

- Stay in a safe place with a means of escape
- Be ready if you need to evacuate from your home
- Co-operate with the emergency services.
- Call 999 if you are in immediate danger

You can sign up for free [flood alerts](#) and [flood warnings](#) via the Flood Assist website and [app](#).

Our real-time warnings are based on live data directly from the Environment Agency so you can guarantee you'll have the most up to date information possible.

Have you got a question that we've not answered? Call our team on 01832 770770, we'll be happy to help.