



If you have cell phone service or a way to get online, follow this QR code or visit [vermontpublic.org/flood](https://vermontpublic.org/flood) to access all of the following resources:

## If you are experiencing or anticipating flooding:

- **Road closures:**
  - State roads: Visit [newengland511.org](https://newengland511.org) or @511VT on Twitter
  - Local town roads: Consult your town website or social media
- **Monitor the latest forecasts and water levels** for specific rivers from the National Weather Service at [water.weather.gov](https://water.weather.gov)
- **Find a list of emergency shelters**
- Access the Vermont Language Justice Project, which has **videos in 16 languages** to help Vermonters stay safe during heavy rain events.
- **Call Vermont 2-1-1** or visit [vermont211.org](https://vermont211.org) for more resources and to report flood damage to help the state gather data.
- **Check the statewide list to see if you are under a boil water notice.**
- **Vermont Department of Health** has guidance for flood recovery at [healthvermont.org/flood](https://healthvermont.org/flood)

## Safety tips to follow when returning to flooded property:

- **Water contamination:** Do not drive into flooded areas or enter floodwaters, they can contain things harmful to human health. If you do need to enter floodwater, wear rubber boots, rubber gloves, and goggles.
- **Check for structural damage before entering a building:** Are the walls leaning in? Are there cracks in the foundation? Is the roof sagging? If there are signs of structural damage, do NOT enter. Call a professional.
- **Power, natural gas, and generator safety:** Cut off electrical power and natural gas or propane tanks in your home. If your power switch is in standing water, do not power it off yourself. Beware of potential gas leaks, and be careful of potential carbon monoxide poisoning if you're using a generator.
- **Food and drinking water safety:** Consuming food or water that have been in contact with flood water can make you sick. Sanitize any dishes and surfaces that have come into contact with floodwater. Follow local guidance on whether the water is safe to drink. If you have a private well, get your water tested before using it.
- **Documenting the damage:** Once it's safe to enter your home, document the damage by taking photos before you start cleaning up. Follow documentation guidance from FEMA at <https://www.floodsmart.gov/document-damage-and-start-clean>

- **Mold:** Exposure to mold can be harmful to human health. If you opt to clean up yourself, wear personal protective equipment. Follow guidance in the CDC's mold cleanup guide at [cdc.gov/mold/cleanup-guide.html](https://www.cdc.gov/mold/cleanup-guide.html)
- **Returning to a flooded car:** If your car was partially submerged in floodwater, avoid starting it right away. Start drying your vehicle as soon as you can.

### **Avoid scams that can crop up after a disaster:**

Natural disasters present the opportunity for scammers to pretend to be a charitable organization or government agency. Be aware of:

- **Contractor scams:** If you do plan to hire a contractor, make sure you have a contract that lays out expectations for price, work and time frame. Check references and do not give money upfront for home repairs, flood damage, or debris removal. The Secretary of State's office has a list of registered contractors at <https://sos.vermont.gov/residential-contractors/statutes-rules-resources/#map>
- **Phishing scams:** For phone or email scams the safest way to know that someone who is contacting you is really trying to help is to do your own research. Go to a trusted website and find a phone number or email address independently. Do not click links in emails if you can't confirm the sender.
- **In person:** If someone approaches you face to face, thank them for the information, and let them know you'll be doing your own research before following up.
- **Price gouging:** Price gouging is when an item significantly increases in price and affects things like water or first aid items or hotel rooms.
- **If you have questions, or you have encountered a scam:** Report it to the Consumer Assistance Program at the Attorney General's office at <https://ago.vermont.gov/cap> or 1-800-649-2424.

### **Vermont Agency of Agriculture resources page for farmers:**

Find information on reporting losses, tips and resources, and recovery funding at <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/flood>

### **How to help or volunteer:**

- Focus on your local community. Local organizations are beginning to gather items for hard-hit communities, including food and water donations. Find the latest guidance about how to help with recovery at [vermontpublic.org/flood](https://vermontpublic.org/flood)
- People can sign up to volunteer through the state at [vermont.gov/volunteer](https://vermont.gov/volunteer)
- "Only deploy when you have been given a specific volunteer assignment. ... Please do not become someone in need of rescue." - Vermont Public Safety Commissioner Jennifer Morrison



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