

1) Before A Flood—Make A Plan

- Make an emergency evacuation & communication plan for family and pets, including identifying where you will meet in an emergency.
- Talk with your neighbors about emergency plans, especially for those with special needs.
- Know where you and your loved ones will stay if your home is flooded.
- Check with your insurance agency about buying a flood insurance policy. Homeowners insurance does not cover damage from flooding.
- Learn the safest route from home, work, or school to higher ground or your emergency meeting spot. Keep a gas can filled for emergencies.
- Gather important documents, including a list of valuables, and keep it off site, or in a waterproof container in your emergency supply kit.

Assemble A Flood Emergency Kit

First Aid & Medications

- a week's supply of prescription medications
- non-prescription medication
- first aid kit
- hand sanitizer & hand wipes

Food & Provisions

- soap & toiletries
- change of clothing

- rain gear
- sturdy shoes
- sleeping bag and bedding
- food & provisions for all family members, including pets
- extra pair of glasses and/or contact lenses

Emergency Communications

- battery-powered radio with fresh batteries
- cell phone & charger
- whistle to signal for help

- flashlight with fresh batteries

Important Contacts & Documents

- a list of family physicians and important medical information
- photocopies of important documents, including homeowners insurance
- identification cards, credit cards, cash & checks

Prepare Your Home

If you live in a high-flood risk area:

- Elevate your furnace, water heater, electrical panel and other utilities. Secure propane, kerosene & oil tanks.
- Stow or secure lawn mowers, barbecue grills & other items that may be carried away by floodwaters if your area is under flood warning.
- Store cleaning supplies and other hazardous materials up high so they will not be carried away by floodwaters.
- Install check valves to prevent water from backing up drains.
- Have emergency waterproofing supplies, such as sandbags, and know how you can install them quickly, easily and effectively.

Securing Boats and Personal Watercraft (PWC) for a Flood Event

- Remove sails, flags, and secure everything exposed to wind and use additional lines to secure the vessel.
- Boats and PWC stored in low lying areas adjacent to the water should also be secured in place, both when trailered and set on stands, as elevated water levels and wind conditions may shift and damage boats that are ashore, but in a flood zone.
- Floating docks are relatively safe from floodwaters, as long as the poles retaining the docks are of sufficient height to accommodate the added elevation of the surge.

2) During A Flood—Be Ready to Act

- Stay informed by tuning in to local radio, television and weather reports. Battery-operated radios are affordable and widely available.
- Disconnect appliances if it is safe. Don't go into any room if water covers electrical outlets or power cords.
- If told to evacuate, do so immediately. Be sure to lock your home.

BEWARE OF FLOODWATER!

If your house is surrounded by floodwater, move to the highest possible point and call 911.

Do not drive into floodwaters. Two feet of water will carry your car away. Turn around—don't drown!

Do not stand on bridges or near the shore during a flood.

Do not sightsee during a flood! You could put yourself and others in danger.

Floodwater may be contaminated. Do not wade or swim in it!

3) After A Flood—Returning Home

- **If advised to evacuate, wait until you are told it is safe before returning home.**
- Stay informed— tune into local news for information on road closures, boil water alerts, etc.
- Exercise caution when entering flood-damaged buildings. Buildings may not be safe.
- **If your home has been flooded:**
 - Do not turn on electrical appliances until checked by a licensed electrician.
 - Care should be taken to drain water gradually from the building to avoid structural damage.
 - Walls and floors should be disinfected or replaced to avoid growth of mold and mildew.
 - Well water should be tested for bacteria before drinking. Call UCDOH 845-340-3009 for a complete list of certified labs.

Flood Recovery References

This guide was produced using the following resources. Please visit these websites for more information on flood preparedness.

NY Extension Disaster Education Network: eden.cce.cornell.edu

National Weather Service Flood Safety: weather.gov/safety/flood

Department of Homeland Security: www.ready.gov

National Flood Insurance Program: floodsmart.gov

NYS Office of Emergency Management: dhSES.ny.gov/oem/ or prepare.ny.gov

First Steps to Flood Recovery: <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/floodpub/>

FEMA Flood Preparedness: ready.gov/floods

Disaster Preparedness and Pets: wmdart.org/pet-preparedness

American Red Cross Repairing Your Flooded Home: redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/disaster-cleanup



Village of Athens, NY
Greene County's First Incorporated Village

Flood Preparedness Guide for Residents and Businesses on the Hudson Waterfront

New York State
Water Resources Institute
Cornell University
Cornell Cooperative Extension
Columbia and Greene Counties



Emergency Contacts

Write important numbers here:

Fire Department	911
Police Department	911
Village Hall	(518)945-1551
Insurance Agent	
Plumber	
Heating Contractor	
Electrician	
Landlord	
Personal Contact	
School	
Neighbors to Check on	

Athens' Waterfront

One of the wonderful things about living in the Village of Athens is being near the water. The Hudson River and Murderer's Creek are part of what makes the Village such a special place to live, work and play. But, the river and the creek put some areas of the Village at risk of flooding. Flood risk continues to increase due to climate change. Climate change is also predicted to cause increased intensity and frequency of weather events.

Flooding is not just a problem for people who live near the water. All residents should be aware of risks and know how to find information and help when flooding occurs. Whether you live in the flood zone or not, being prepared for an emergency is important. Keep this guide handy so you know where to find help if you need it.

Know Your Risk and Stay Informed!

Know Your Zone: If you live close to the Hudson River or Murderer's Creek, you may live in the **flood zone** and you should be prepared to secure your home and/or business and evacuate quickly. If you're not sure if you are at risk, check the map in this guide. Flood maps are also available through FEMA at: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>

Emergency Notifications will be made via radio and County-wide Community Emergency Notification System by phone. New residents and cell phone users can opt in on the County's website <https://www.greenegovernment.com/departments/emergency-services/swift-911-registration>

Check with your school district to learn where to locate emergency notifications and school closings

New York Alert: You can sign up for the New York State notification system to receive phone calls or emails that will alert you to serious or emergency situations. Register at alert.ny.gov

Finding Help

Emergency Shelters

Edward J Arthur Elementary School
51 3rd Street
Athens, NY 12015
(518) 731-1750
*has generator hookups

Athens Fire Department
39 Third Street
Athens, NY 12015
(518) 945-2599

For real-time emergency shelter information, download the American Red Cross Mobile App <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/mobile-apps.html>

Athens Police Department
2 1st St #1, Athens, NY 12015
Phone: (518) 945-1559

Emergency Pet Shelter
Columbia Greene Humane Society
111 Humane Society Rd, Hudson, NY 12534
(518) 828-6044

Emergency Parking
Edward J Arthur Elementary School
51 3rd Street
Athens, NY 12015
(518) 731-1750

