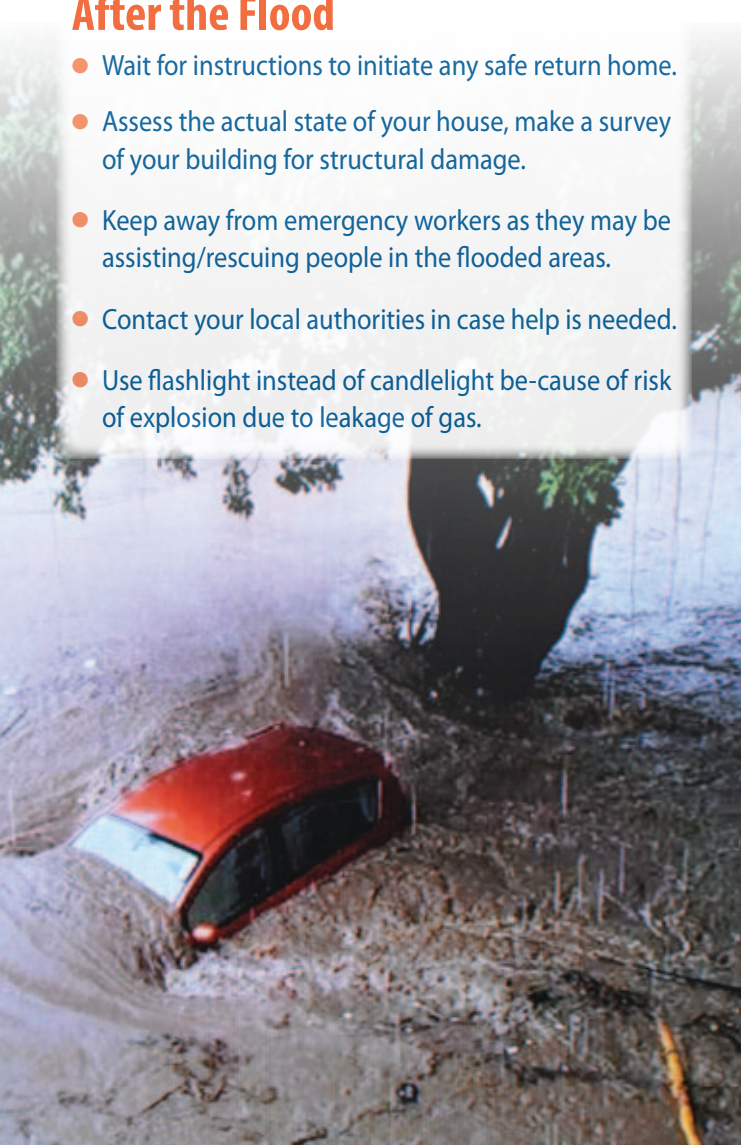


- Flooded roads and footpaths could have significant and hidden dangers. NEVER drive or walk through floodwaters.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.
- Monitor Meteorological Services and other Government announcements and local radio for vital weather related information.

After the Flood

- Wait for instructions to initiate any safe return home.
- Assess the actual state of your house, make a survey of your building for structural damage.
- Keep away from emergency workers as they may be assisting/rescuing people in the flooded areas.
- Contact your local authorities in case help is needed.
- Use flashlight instead of candlelight because of risk of explosion due to leakage of gas.



**IN CASE
OF
EMERGENCY
115**

**Firefighters are available 24/7
for any assistance in case
of fire and for rescue services**

Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service
14, Deschartres Street, Port Louis, Mauritius
Tel.: 212 0214/15 | Fax: 208 3875 | Email: gfs@govmu.org

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Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service



Flood is generally a temporary overflowing of water that submerges land that is normally dry, or it can be a rapid accumulation of water on land surface area as a result of heavy rainfall.

Types of Flood

- Flash floods
- Heavy rainfall or torrential rainfalls
- Heavy rainfall during storm

Causes of Flood

- Overflow of river bank
- Large accumulation of water
- Accumulation of water in low level or flat land
- Sudden rupture of water pipes/canals/dams debris can flow quickly and sometimes without warning.

Prepare an Emergency Kit with the Following Items:

- Battery-powered radio set, Torch/flashlight and extra batteries, First aid kit, Blanket, Piece of rope, Life jacket, Dry food, Drinking water, Re-flecting jacket, Clothing.

Be Prepared for the Flood

- Locate the flooding area – High or low land areas.
- Beware of overflow of river bank/rupture of dam.
- Valuables and documents to be placed in a safe and high area as far as practically possible. (Credit card, passport, identity card, certificates, medical prescription).
- Electrical socket to be installed at high level.

Preparedness and Precautions in the Event of a Flood

- Ensure that RCD is tested once a month (for electrical safety).
- If possible keep a mobile phone handy.
- Make available sufficient number of sandbags. (In high risk areas, individuals are advised to keep shovel, one floor ladder...)
- Keep drain pipes free from obstructions.
- Avoid dumping garbage in rivers and canals.
- Make a record of your personal property.
- If possible insure your property against flood.
- Consider the necessity of having flood doors for basement areas and underground tunnel.
- Develop and test your evacuation plan.
- Confirm your nearest emergency shelter.
- Keep emergency numbers handy such as 114, 115, 999.
- People living in basement must be vigilant and avoid low lying areas, they must have an alternate escape route.
- Flood warning devices to be installed in basement, underground parking and tunnel.
- In case of more than one storey building, it is advisable to have an access to the roof.
- Do not enter underground parking and basement areas.
- If water reaches your ankle go to a safer or higher place.
- Avoid re-entering flooded area.
- In case you need to evacuate a flooded area, walk where the water is not moving and use a stick to check the firmness of the ground and depth of the water.
- Get to higher ground, stay away from flood-prone areas, especially areas with rapid water flow.
- Do not enter or attempt to cross fast flowing water, even 15 cm of fast flowing water could sweep you off your feet.
- Even 60cm of fast moving water could float away most cars. If your vehicle stalls in flood water, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Don't allow children to play near flood water, storm drains or ditches. Flood water can be contaminated with chemicals and sewerage.

During the Flood

- Listen to your local radio or local broadcast for advice and if advised to evacuate, do so immediately.
- Do not venture outside until the level of water decreases.
- Beware of risk of electrocution, gas or LPG leakage.
- In case you need to evacuate, secure your home, move your essential items in an upper floor to avoid water damage.
- Shut off electricity, water and gas at main switcher and valves.
- In case you need to evacuate avoid flood waters while evacuating.

