

Clean up Following Flood Emergency

When cleared for return to your home:

Check home for structural damage. If you have doubts about safety, contact a contractor or local building inspector.

Check for standing water in basement. Do not turn on electricity if water is present.

Check for gas leaks or odor. Do not smoke or use candles or lanterns. Restore utilities with professional help.

Check the water system. Do not drink from a damaged water system. When in doubt, purify it first.

Take special care during cleanup to disinfect everything that has come into contact with flood waters. Flood waters are often laden with disease organisms.

Small children, pregnant women and people with health problems should avoid flooded areas until cleanup is complete.

Hose the affected house and contents to get rid of mud before it dries.

Lower the humidity by opening up the area, using fans and dehumidifiers, draining water in ceilings and walls.

Sort contents and get rid of debris.

Get rid of food that is contaminated or out of temperature.

Care for yourself physically and mentally. Seek help for stress. Pay attention to childrens' special needs.

Keep receipts for cleanup expenses for insurance. Pictures or video tapes are helpful.