

Basement Flooding

Floods, big or small, can have devastating effects on your home and your family. If your basement has flooded, there are some important things you should know. When in doubt, don't enter the flooded area until you are told it is safe to do so by a qualified professional.

First and foremost, consider your family's health and safety

Entering a wet basement could be hazardous! Before you enter your basement, consider the following:

- **Electrical Shock** – When your basement is wet, there is a legitimate risk of electrical shock. If you are positive that you can safely do so, turn off your home's power at the main breaker switches.
- **Gas leaks** – If you have Natural Gas appliances in the basement, **Call Enbridge Gas New Brunswick at 1-800-994-2762**. They will come to your home/business free of charge and turn off the supply of natural gas at the gas meter. If you smell gas, leave the house right away and then call 911.
- **Pollutants** – Sewage can contain bacteria and transmit disease and the floodwater in your basement may have originated from the sanitary sewer and contain raw sewage.
- **Structural damage** – While this is not that common, a flood with certain conditions may weaken walls or even ceiling structures. If there is any concern that structural integrity has been compromised, or you simply don't know, leave the area and call in the experts.

Call your insurance company

They will immediately advise you on any standard clean-up procedures, contractors to call and claim procedures.

Take plenty of photos and document items that have been damaged or need to be replaced. Keep all receipts for emergency purchases, and/or repairs. Depending on your insurance coverage, you may be reimbursed.