

1 PREPARATION

- » Buy Flood Insurance. There is a 30-day waiting period before a policy takes effect.
- » Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio.
- » Tune in to local radio stations and local TV stations.
- » Plan an escape route to higher ground.
- » Move vehicles to a safe location on higher ground before local roads are closed.
- » Copy important documents. Keep copies in your home and store originals in a secure place outside the home.
- » Take photos of your possessions.
- » Make an itemized list of other possessions, such as clothing, books, and small kitchen appliances.
- » Remember, just six inches of moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

2 DURING

- » Follow instructions by local officials, police, fire department and other emergency workers.
- » Listen to **EAS, NOAA Weather Radio** or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions regarding flooding.
- » If told to evacuate, **Evacuate immediately**. Never drive around barricades. Local responders use them to safely direct traffic out of flooded areas.
- » Turn off water, gas and electric systems before leaving your home.
- » Do not walk, swim or drive through flood waters. **Turn Around. Don't Drown!**
- » Flood waters may contain pollutants. Contact your healthcare provider if you are sick and need medical attention. Wait for further care instructions and **shelter in place**, if possible. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 911.
- » Stay off bridges over fast-moving water. Fast-moving water can wash bridges away without warning.
- » Stay inside your car if it is trapped in rapidly moving water. Get on the roof if water is rising inside the car.
- » Get to the highest level if trapped in a building. Only get on the roof if necessary and once there signal for help. Do not climb into a closed attic to avoid getting trapped by rising floodwater.
- » Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. Report downed power lines to PPL Utilities at 1-800-342-5775.

MITIGATING FUTURE DAMAGE

ELEVATE HOME: Retrofit a home by elevating it above the height of most flood levels.

RUNOFF REDUCTION: Install rain barrels and increase pervious (absorbent) surfaces by building rain gardens and french drains.

SUMP PUMP: Install a water removal system in any area (sump) that water collects to be moved (pumped) off of your property.

RAISE BUILDING SYSTEMS: Move home heating & cooling equipment and electrical panel box to higher floors to prevent flood water exposure.

3 AFTER

- » Return home only when authorities say it is safe.
- » Avoid driving except in emergencies.
- » Check exterior first for damage before entering. Be aware that animals may be in your house. Open windows and doors to circulate air.
- » Avoid wading in floodwater, which can be contaminated and contain dangerous debris.
- » Wear protective gear during clean up and use face coverings or masks if cleaning mold or other debris.
- » People with asthma and other lung conditions and/or immune suppression should not enter buildings with indoor water leaks or mold growth that can be seen or smelled. Children should not take part in disaster cleanup work.
- » Be aware of the risk of electrocution. Do not touch electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water. Underground or downed power lines can also electrically charge the water. Do not turn on utilities until a qualified service person inspects.
- » Do not strike a match or smoke in case of a gas leak. Use a generator or other gasoline-powered machinery outdoors **ONLY** and away from windows.
- » Clean everything that got wet. Flood waters contain sewage and chemicals.
- » Take photos and call insurance agent.
- » Take care of yourself. It is tough on the body and the spirit.

Flooding is a temporary overflow of water onto land that is normally dry. Floods are the most common natural disaster in the United States. Failing to evacuate flooded areas or entering flood waters can lead to injury or death.

Floods may result from rain, snow, coastal storms, storm surges and other water systems. They can develop slowly or quickly. Flash floods can come with no warning. Floods can cause outages, disrupt transportation, damage buildings and create landslides.

Remember, just six inches of moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

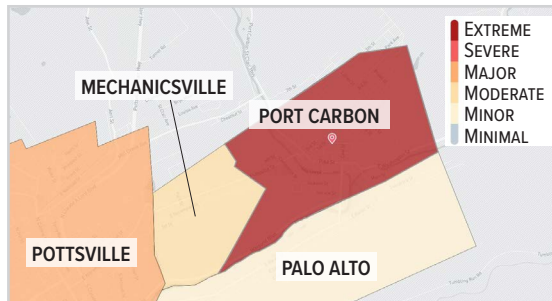
FLOOD RISK OVERVIEW FOR PORT CARBON BOROUGH

Port Carbon has an extreme risk of flooding, which means flooding could impact our community's day to day life.

There are **551** properties in Port Carbon that have greater than a **26%** chance of being severely affected by flooding over the next 30 years. This represents **58%** of all properties in the borough.

In addition to property damage, flooding can also affect utilities, emergency services, transportation, and may impact the overall economic well-being of an area.

Port Carbon has a greater overall flood risk than **95%** of the cities across the state. According to the data provided by FloodFactor, the map below shows the overall risk in Port Carbon compared to other surrounding areas.



GOOD RULE OF THUMB

If your home is in the floodplain and you've experienced repeated flooding, be alert during sudden or severe storm events. The Borough continues to pursue flood mitigation measures for all residents but needs you to be proactive as well.



Funding was made possible through a Growing Greener Grant and the PADEP.

For additional information, please scan the QR code to the right or visit the Borough website www.portcarbonborough.org



FLOOD YOUR BRAIN WITH KNOWLEDGE

EXPLORE HOW YOU CAN STAY SAFE BEFORE, DURING & AFTER A FLOOD