

Flood preparedness is crucial in mitigating the risks associated with flooding. Here are some dos and don'ts to consider:

****DO:****

1. ****Stay Informed****: Monitor local weather forecasts, flood warnings, and emergency alerts from authorities.
2. ****Create a Flood Emergency Kit****: Assemble essential items such as food, water (at least 3 days' supply), first aid kit, flashlights, batteries, and a battery-powered radio.
3. ****Have a Family Evacuation Plan****: Identify safe zones, routes, and contact points in case of an emergency.
4. ****Protect Valuables****: Move valuable items, important documents, and irreplaceable belongings to higher ground or a safe location.
5. ****Trim Tree Branches****: Regularly trim tree branches to prevent them from causing damage during flooding.

****DON'T:****

1. ****Don't Try to Walk or Drive through Floodwaters****: Avoid wading into floodwater, as it can be contaminated with sewage, chemicals, and other hazards. Never drive through flooded roads, as the water may be deeper than expected.
2. ****Don't Ignore Warnings****: Don't wait for the situation to worsen before taking action. Heed early warnings from authorities to minimize risks.
3. ****Don't Overfill Sandbags****: Fill sandbags carefully, leaving enough room for expansion during flooding. Overfilled bags can burst or collapse under water pressure.
4. ****Don't Use Electrical Appliances During a Flood****: Avoid using electrical appliances in flooded

areas, as they may be damaged and cause electrocution hazards.

5. ****Don't Ignore Health Risks****: Be aware of potential health risks such as contaminated water, mold growth, and injuries during flood response.

By following these dos and don'ts, you can significantly reduce the risks associated with flooding and stay safe in emergency situations.