
TIPS FOR RESIDENTIAL CLEANUP

- Once the outdoor areas have been made safe and the building inspector has deemed the home safe, it is time for the interior clean up to begin.
- Before entering the building, make sure that the electricity and gas have been turned off from the outside. Open all doors and windows to remove any gases from the home and get rid of offensive odors.
- Cooking utensils should be inspected; those made of porous material (such as wood, plastic or rubber) should be thrown away along with dishes which have deep cracks. Wash the remaining items with hot water and detergent, using a brush to remove dirt if necessary. If any items can be taken apart, take them apart and clean the pieces. Rinse in hot water and soak in bleach. Two table-spoons of bleach to a gallon of water, to sanitize. Allow items to air dry.
- Rugs and carpeting should be assessed for damage and either cleaned thoroughly or simply replaced.
- All electrical wiring, appliance and motors should be checked by an electrician before any attempt is made to use them. Clean and dry all switches, outlets and junction boxes that have been under water. Once these items have been cleaned and dried, have a certified electrician check the entire system.
- Walls should be washed from the bottom up, rinsed and then painted with a strong antimicrobial called quatarnary disinfectant. This will make the walls mildew resistant. You can get this solution from any janitorial or dairy-supply outlets.

PREVENT ILLNESS AFTER A FLOOD

Flood waters often contain infectious organisms such as salmonella, e coli, and Hepatitis. Be alert to symptoms and seek immediate help. The symptoms include:

- Nausea
- Abdominal cramps
- Vomiting
- Muscle aches
- Diarrhea
- Fever

If you experience any of these symptoms you should contact your doctor.

FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

Homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes along with non-profit organizations affected by the severe storms, tornadoes and flooding beginning May 25 may apply by phoning 1-800-621-FEMA (1-800-621-3362)(TTY 1-800-462-7585) or apply online at www.FEMA.gov

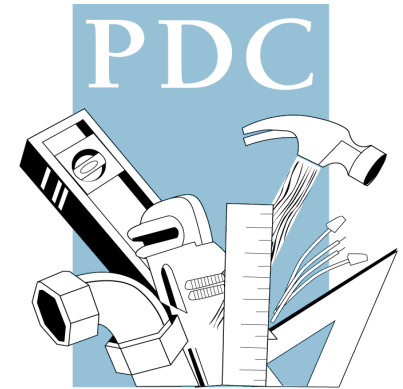
IMPORTANT: Please have the following information available when you call:

- A phone number and a reliable alternate in case we need to call you back.
- Address of the damaged property
- Brief description of the damages
- Your social security number
- Insurance information (if you have insurance)
- Current mailing address
- Bank Account information (if you are eligible for disaster assistance, you may choose to have the check deposited directly into your account)

Government disaster assistance covers basic needs only and will not normally compensate you for your entire loss. If you have insurance, the government may help pay for basic needs not covered under insurance. Some disaster assistance may come in the form of loans.

For more information: www.fema.gov/assistance/index.shtml

CITY OF DES MOINES PERMIT AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER



Permit & Development Center
Community Development Department
602 Robert D. Ray Dr. • Des Moines, IA 50309

TO: Property Owners, Tenants and Occupants
of Flood Damaged Properties

SUBJECT: The Re-Building Process

In an effort to make the re-building process easier and to make sure properties are repaired in a way that is safe for all residents, the City of Des Moines has put together this informational brochure. It includes all of the information you'll need to repair and re-occupy your home safely.

The Permit and Development Center is currently located in the Central Library, 2nd Floor, 1000 Grand Ave. due to flooding concerns until approximately the end of June. You may contact us at 515-283-4200 or 515-283-4500 to confirm our location.

Flood Recovery

If you have a red, yellow or green placard on your house:

RED: “UNSAFE” Your home has been extensively damaged. You are not to re-occupy until the proper building permits have been obtained, repairs have been made by licensed contractors and inspections have been completed.

YELLOW: “LIMITED ENTRY” Authorized personnel (i.e. Licensed mech/elec/plumbing contractors, utility companies, general contractors and qualified homeowners) may enter the building to do repairs. You as the owner or occupant may only enter to remove belongings, you may not re-occupy the home. Permits may be required. Please refer to the posted placard for specific restrictions. Questions, please call our office at 515-283-4200, and have your address ready.

GREEN: “INSPECTED” Your home has been inspected. You are permitted to re-occupy. If an interior inspection has not been completed, you are required to report any unsafe conditions to our office.

OBTAINING PERMITS:

The Des Moines City Council approved a moratorium to waive permit fees for flood damaged properties during this event on permits obtained between June 10th and September 15th 2008. All permits including mechanical, electrical and plumbing permits are covered.

WHO CAN OBTAIN PERMITS:



*A Safe Home is
A Safe
Community*

Building Permits may be obtained by the home owner or anyone acting as the agent for the owner.

Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Permits are required to be obtained by a licensed contractor. MEP Contractors must be licensed through the State of Iowa.

Confirm a contractor's abilities by checking references and contacting the Better Business Bureau 515-243-8137 or the Attorney General's Office at 515-281-5164. A list of licensed contractors is available on our website at www.dmgov.org

WHERE TO OBTAIN A PERMIT:

The Permit and Development Center is currently located in the Central Library, 2nd Floor, 1000 Grand Ave. until approximately the end of June due to flooding concerns. You may contact us at 515-283-4200 to confirm our location.

Our normal place of operation is:

The Armory Building

602 Robert D. Ray Drive Des Moines, IA 50309

Enter on the south end of the building

THE INSPECTION PROCESS:

Inspections must be conducted and approved of at the following phases of construction/renovation:

Building Inspections:

- Foundation repairs/replacements must be inspected prior to backfilling and coring of any masonry cells. Reinforcement and drainage must be visible. A final inspection must be done when completed.
- Sub flooring repairs/replacement must be inspected prior to covering.
- Structural repairs (ie: plates, joists, trusses) must be inspected prior to enclosure of any walls, ceilings or floors.
- A final inspection is required for all projects.
- When repairs exceed \$1000 value, homes will be required to be retrofitted with smoke detectors.

Electrical/Plumbing Inspections:

- When walls are exposed and wiring or piping is being replaced or repaired an inspection must be done prior to insulating or enclosing any walls, ceilings or floors.

Mechanical Inspections:

- The installation of any gas piping, vents and ducts must be inspected prior to being enclosed.
- New or repaired furnaces, water heaters or air conditioners must be inspected when repairs or installations are completed.

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