



## Flood & Mudslides Fact Sheet

1. People living in floodplains are 27 times more likely to experience a flood during their 30-year mortgage than they are to have a fire. (NFIP)
2. Flood, earth movement, mudslide and landslide are excluded from standard Homeowners Insurance policies.
3. Standard Homeowners Insurance does cover some kinds of water damage such as rain that enters a home through a broken window or a hole in the roof caused by a covered peril (wind or falling tree limbs).
4. Find out if you are located in a floodplain and if your community participates in the NFIP. You can call your city or county Building or Planning Departments and ask to see the Flood Insurance Rate Maps published by FEMA.
5. Flood Insurance covers direct physical loss from floods and losses resulting from related erosion caused by waves or currents or water exceeding anticipated levels and accompanied by a severe storm, flash food or an abnormal tide surge. Flood Insurance may also cover mudslides.
6. If you are at risk for flooding, buy as much flood coverage as allowed. Primary residences insured for 80 percent of their value, or for the maximum amounts allowed, get replacement cost coverage.
7. In low-to-moderate flood risk areas, coverage is available for as little as \$100 per year. The average premium in high-risk areas is about \$400 per year.
8. There is normally a 30-day waiting period from the time a policy is purchased until you are covered.
9. Maintain a Home Inventory of your personal belongings and the home's contents. Having an inventory can help adjusters assess damage and speed up the claims process if you do experience a flood.
10. **The Recovery Process**
  - a. Take pictures of damaged property and keep notes. Use pictures and inventory lists to help your insurance agent and adjuster assess the damage.
  - b. Don't be rushed into signing repair contracts. Deal only with reputable contractors. If you're unsure about a contractor's credentials, contact your claims adjuster, Better Business Bureau or Chamber of Commerce for referrals. Be sure of payment terms and consult your agent or adjuster before you sign any contracts.