

# **ELVASTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Flooding - information, advice & tips for residents:**

- **Preparing for flooding before it happens.**
- **Remaining safe during a flood.**
- **Recovering and clean-up after a flood.**

## Elvaston Parish Flood Risk

The Lower Derwent Flood Plain in the Parish has a history of relatively low impact flooding.



Flood protection work in the 1970s (Ambaston Flood Bank, etc.) has been effective but remote dwellings and parts of Elvaston remain at risk. See:

[www.environment.agency/Floodmap](http://www.environment.agency/Floodmap). for 'at risk' areas.

Sudden storms can overwhelm local watercourses and spill into peoples' property but, whatever the cause, flooding is damaging, disruptive, causes anxiety and misery, and can be life threatening.



The Environment Agency

*Flood Alerts* and *Warnings* are accurate and Emergency Services continue to effectively respond to flood events. However, **residents are responsible for assessing their own flood risk and taking action to mitigate flood damage.**



Flood protection measures within the Parish offers protection against all but a 1 in a 100 year flood. Despite the relatively low risk, residents should consider making informed decisions about how they would protect themselves

and their property if a flood does occur.

## Think about flooding before it happens

Know what the levels of flood warnings mean;



FLOOD ALERT



FLOOD WARNING



SEVERE FLOOD  
WARNING

- **Flood Alert:** Flooding is possible. **PREPARE**
- **Flood Warning:** Flooding is expected. **ACT**
- **Severe Flood Warning:** Severe flooding. **SURVIVE**

Flood Alerts and Warnings for the Parish are triggered by river level readings at Derby St Marys and Church Wilne. The warnings will relate specifically to Ambaston Village, Ambaston area or Elvaston. The website [www.gov.uk/riverandsealevels](http://www.gov.uk/riverandsealevels) show; the current level of the River Derwent, a 36 hour level projection, its highest recorded level, and the level when flooding can be expected.

### What can you do now?

- ✓ Find out if you're at risk of flooding by feeding in your post code on to the Environment Agency Flood Map.
- ✓ If you are 'at risk', make a personal 'flood plan' about the important things you would need to do if a flood is forecast.

[www.gov.uk/publications/personal-flood-plan](http://www.gov.uk/publications/personal-flood-plan).



- ✓ Consider flood protection identified by the Environment Agency, Local Council, and the independent National Flood Forum's [www.bluepages.org.uk](http://www.bluepages.org.uk)
- ✓ Know how to turn off; gas, electricity and water supplies
- ✓ Prepare a flood kit file, including copies of vital documents and a list of essential items should you need to move to an upper floor or leave your home.

- ✓ Review your home and contents insurance and ensure it covers what you want it to cover.
- ✓ Sign up for flood 'Alert' 'Warning' messages from the Environment Agency; [www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings](http://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings)

***Plan now as it's too late when flood waters are at your door!***

### What can the Parish Council do?

The **Parish Council** regularly considers flooding issues and, during a flood within the Parish, a Councillor will be in direct contact with the Environment Agency's Duty Officer and the County Council's Emergency Planners to assess the situation, take any action they advise, and disseminate information to those at risk.

The **County Council** is the 'Lead Authority' in the event of a flood. It provides information, support and **co-ordinates arrangements** for the care of evacuees who have had to leave their home.

The Parish can provide sandbags, but residents are responsible for storing, filling and then deploying them. They have a use in diverting running water and, with plastic sheeting, can hold back standing water. However, they take time to fill and lay, and are difficult to handle. See: [www.gov.uk/publications/sandbags](http://www.gov.uk/publications/sandbags).



Bungalow residents (no upper refuge) are particularly vulnerable. The floor level in some older properties increases the risk of water ingress and those residents may require additional attention.

The Parish Council will meet regularly during a flood event to assess the situation and to review and revise their action plans. It will also update information to residents through meetings and social media.

Residents can offer help and assistance to others but this should not compromise their own safety. In many cases it can be more appropriate to contact local agencies or emergency services.

**2018**

## *Flood Alert and Warnings*

### **Flood ALERT**

This indicates that the Derwent will probably overtop its banks and flood low lying agricultural land each side of it. The water table will rise, affecting gardens, filling roadside ditches and possibly spilling out over Ambaston Lane and parts of Borrowash Lane.

**The risk of damage during an 'Alert' is unlikely in this Parish**

### **Flood WARNING**

This Warning can give as little as 2 hours warning of a flood. A Flood Warning means exactly that; i.e. a flood is probable. **Act quickly and calmly** as flood waters may soon be at your door!

- \* Listen to local radio and weather forecasts
- \* Fill jugs and saucepans with water.
- \* Put together an emergency flood kit.
- \* Protect yourself and your family, and your pets.
- \* Raise larger items of furniture off the ground
- \* Fit any flood protection products you may have
- \* Prepare to move to a higher floor taking food, water, clothing etc.
- \* Prepare to turn off water, gas and electricity if it seems likely that flood waters may enter your property

The Floodline (**0345 988 1188**) gives advice on remaining safe during a flood.

### **Severe Flood WARNING**

The main difference for this Parish between a Flood Warning and Severe Flood Warning is the duration of the flood and possibly the presence of aggravating factors that include; the depth of the flood water, the prolonged absence of power, contaminated drinking water and raw sewage mixing with the flood water.

You should have already taken most of the vital safety measures but monitor your situation and remain calm

Life will become very difficult and it may take some time to recover.

## Remaining safe in a flood

- ***Your first priority is the safety of yourself and your family***
- Check **Floodline: 0345 988 1188** for accurate information.
- Try to remain calm and reassure others.
- Call 999 (112 on mobile) if you are in immediate danger.
- Be ready to move to a safe place (with a means of escape) and Consider relocating if you live in a bungalow (no upper floor)
- Listen for information on local media (radio & social).
- Flood water is dirty and dangerous. It may contain raw



sewage, chemicals, other pollutants and hide dangers like sharp objects, raised manhole covers, etc.

- If you have to venture out take care and wear protective clothing.

- Be ready if you have to evacuate your home. Remember to take important documents, etc. with you.



- It is worth noting that 6 inches (15cms) of fast flowing water can knock over an adult and two foot (60cms) can move a car.

- Be prepared for a loss of power and other utilities.
- Do not touch sources of electricity if you are standing in water.

## After a flood

Experience shows that feeling stressed, anxious, etc., after a flood are normal human responses that can take some time to subside. There is no simple fix, these things do take time and people respond in different ways. If you feel concerned that things are not getting better then consult your GP.

There are though practical things you need to consider:

- Call your insurer as soon as possible. They will probably send a loss adjuster who has experience in these matters and can give sound advice.
  - Take photos before you start cleaning and ask your insurers before disposing of anything.
  - Wash your hands regularly and clean work surfaces before and after preparing food. If water is not available use hand sanitising gel or wet wipes.
- Wash soft items (e.g. clothing, bedding and children's toys).
- If you notice a change in tap water quality – colour, taste, smell phone Severn Trent.
- Place rubbish in hard bins or in rubbish bags.
- Do not eat food that has touched flood water or that has been 'defrosted' in the fridge or freezer (i.e. +4 hours without power).
- Dial '111' if you have non-urgent health concerns.
- Be aware of **Rogue Traders**. They will promise to start the next day, ask for an advanced payment 'for materials', never to be seen again!



## Telephone numbers and web addresses

Elvaston **Parish Council** [www.elvaston-pc.org.uk](http://www.elvaston-pc.org.uk)

**Police** 101 or 999 (112 mobile) for emergency

**Fire** 01332 777850 – Enquiries or 999 (112 mobile) for emergency

**Ambulance/Medical** 111 or 999 for emergency

**Environment Agency:-**

**Flood maps** - [www.environment.agency/Floodmap](http://www.environment.agency/Floodmap).

**Flood Plan** – [www.gov.uk/publications/personal-flood-plan](http://www.gov.uk/publications/personal-flood-plan).

**Flood Line** (24 hrs – current flood risk) – 0345 988 1188

**Incident Hotline** (24 hrs to report flooding) – 0800 80 70 60

**Flood warnings direct** – [www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings](http://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings)

**Severn Trent Water** Emergency (24 hrs) 0800 783 4444 (incl. foul sewage issues)

Western Power Distribution (**Power Cuts**) [www.powercut105.com](http://www.powercut105.com)

Derbyshire Local Resilience Forum website – **flood advice**

[www.derbyshireprepared.org.uk/advice\\_for\\_you/flooding](http://www.derbyshireprepared.org.uk/advice_for_you/flooding)

**Derbyshire Council** - 01629 533190 (Lead Authority) for all Depts.

Highways, blocked drains, flooded roads, fallen trees

Emergency Planning (Safety, welfare, etc.)

Flood Risk Management (investigate flood)

[www.derbyshire.gov.uk/environment/flooding/default.asp](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/environment/flooding/default.asp)

**Flooding advice** [www.gov.uk/publications/flooding-planning](http://www.gov.uk/publications/flooding-planning)

**Sandbags** for flood protection – [www.gov.uk/publications/sandbags](http://www.gov.uk/publications/sandbags).

**Flood protection products** - [www.bluepages.org.uk](http://www.bluepages.org.uk)

Further information on this plan; *email* – [info@elvastonfloodplan](mailto:info@elvastonfloodplan)

**River Levels** (Derwent) [www.gov.uk/riverandsealevels](http://www.gov.uk/riverandsealevels)

*(This leaflet was produced from material extracted and adapted from various publications produced by The Environment Agency, Public Health England and National Flood Forum. The personal advice from people at these agencies is also appreciated)*

(front cover picture – fields at Ambaston during a flood alert)