

Helping communities to become more resilient: Our simple 4 step pathway

Preparing communities to be more resilient to flooding is an key goal of the Environment Agency's Flood Resilience Team.

Here they showcase how their simple 4 step pathway is helping communities to be better prepared.

Our Vision

Prepared communities are resilient communities. Together with our partners, we want to ensure all communities at risk of flooding are prepared should the worst happen. We have developed a simple 4 step pathway we can take communities on to help them become more flood resilient.

The Kent Prepared website

Visit the dedicated flood section of the Kent Prepared website.



www.kentprepared.org.uk

This is a one-stop shop to find a whole host of valuable information and resources. These can be used for free to help people and communities to become more flood resilient.

Step 1 – Check your flood risk

We want to encourage individuals to check their flood risk at www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk

“If you don't know you are at risk of flooding, how can you ever be fully prepared?”

Those at risk should sign up for the free Flood Warning Service to receive advanced flood warning messages by phone, text or email, by calling Floodline on **0345 099 1188**, or visiting www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings. This will give people the time to protect the things they treasure - their family, their possessions, their memories.



Flood fact

1 in 6 properties are at risk of flooding – that's over **340 000** properties in Kent

Step 2 – Protect your home

We want individuals at risk to make a personal flood plan. We encourage them to download and complete the personal flood plan template from the Kent Prepared Website.

Completing the personal flood plan helps them to think about what they would do if their home flooded, what they would need, who they would need to contact, and where to find their contact numbers.

Those at risk should also think about how to make their properties more resilient.

The Environment Agency have produced a handy guide 'What to do before, during and after a flood' offering practical advice on what people can do to protect themselves and their property.



4 Step pathway to community flood resilience



Step 3 – Flood Wardens

In conjunction with the Kent Resilience Forum, we want to train as many Flood Wardens in at risk communities as we can.

The role of a Flood Warden is to help their community before, during and after a flood. They act as a vital link between the community and organisations responding to a flood.

The Flood Warden training is free and takes just 2 hours at a time and venue to suit.

The **Kent Resilience Forum** can be contacted to organise a Flood Warden training session:
Email: krf@kent.fire-uk.org or
Phone: **01622 212409**

Flood Wardens leave with a comprehensive handbook, a high visibility vest, and an emergency kit bag for their community, together with the knowledge that we are always here to support them.

We can offer refresher training, and together with our partners arrange an annual workshop that Flood Wardens can attend.

Step 4 – Help your community

We want trained community Flood Wardens to engage with their communities, raise flood awareness, and put together their own personalised community flood plan, encouraging others to get involved.

The community flood plan is a vital part of preparing communities for flooding. Writing, and then implementing a community plan during a flood, will help save lives and minimise the damage and distress flooding can cause. We can help test community flood plans.

The Environment Agency is here to help at any stage of the process, to ensure communities are prepared and flood resilient.

Flood fact
Training to become a Flood Warden takes just **2 hours**

Need further assistance?

Contact your local Flood Resilience Team at the **Environment Agency**:

Email: FloodResilienceKSLES@environment-agency.gov.uk

or telephone: **03708 506 506**



“Prepared communities are resilient communities”

Do you think you may be at risk of flooding?

- Sign up for flood warnings - Call Floodline on 0345 099 1188 or visit www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings
- Prepare a flood plan for your property
- Investigate property flood protection
- Consider volunteering to be a flood warden
- Attend local flood meetings
- Visit www.gov.uk to check river levels, live flood map and weather warnings

Visit www.kentprepared.org.uk for further information and all resources



Working in partnership to build resilient communities