Storm Preparedness: Homeowner Checklist

Preparing for rainy weather doesn't have to feel overwhelming. Some precautions take just a few minutes, while others require a little more planning. The important thing is knowing what to look out for and taking steps to reduce potential damage before the rain arrives. We hope this checklist helps you feel more confident and prepared to protect your home.

01 | Quick Tasks · 15–30 Minutes

- ☐ Check National Weather Service forecasts and sign up for local emergency alerts.
- ☐ Charge phones, portable batteries and essential medical devices.
- ☐ Locate flashlights; check batteries and keep a battery-powered radio handy.
- ☐ Set aside drinking water, shelf-stable food, medications and a first-aid kit.
- ☐ Keep pet food, leashes and carriers accessible.
- ☐ Store important documents in a waterproof pouch; back up digital copies.
- ☐ Move valuables and electronics off floors in areas prone to leaks.
- ☐ Photograph your roof, exterior and valuable belongings before the storm.

02 | Home Maintenance · Plan Ahead

- ☐ Clear gutters and downspouts from a safe position; hire a professional for roof work.
- ☐ Look for ceiling stains, roof damage and leaks; arrange repairs before rain arrives.
- ☐ Secure patio furniture, bins and other loose outdoor objects.
- ☐ Have hazardous or overhanging tree limbs assessed by a qualified professional.
- ☐ Check drainage paths and remove debris from private drains; report blocked public storm drains.
- ☐ Test sump pumps, if installed, and check backup power equipment per manufacturer instructions.
- ☐ Review evacuation routes and identify a safe place to go if needed.
- ☐ Keep vehicles fueled or charged and park away from flood-prone areas when possible.

03 | Larger Preventative Projects · Professional Help May Be Needed

- ☐ Have recurring foundation or crawl-space water intrusion evaluated and repaired.
- ☐ Assess grading and drainage where water pools against the home.
- ☐ Ask a licensed plumber whether a sewer backwater valve is appropriate for your property.
- ☐ Plan sandbags or flood barriers for known entry points; follow local placement guidance.
- ☐ Have damaged exterior doors, windows and flashing repaired.

☐ Ask a qualified electrician about protecting equipment in flood-prone areas; never handle wet electrical equipment.

☐ Review homeowners and flood insurance policies, coverage limits and deductibles. Standard homeowners policies generally exclude flood damage.

When a Storm Is Underway

☐ Follow official warnings and evacuation orders; never drive or walk through floodwater.

☐ Stay indoors away from windows during high winds and avoid downed power lines.

☐ If water enters your home, avoid flooded areas near electrical outlets or equipment; contact emergency services or your utility when necessary.

After the Storm

☐ Wait until authorities say it is safe to return. Watch for structural and electrical hazards.

☐ Photograph damage before cleanup when safe and contact your insurer promptly.

☐ Dry affected areas quickly when safe; seek professional help for significant water damage or suspected contamination.

☐ Keep receipts for emergency protection measures and repairs.

Helpful Resources

Weather: weather.gov • Flood safety: ready.gov/floods • Local alerts: Sacramento County emergency alert resources

💡 **More storm damage or water intrusion concerns?** Sac Infill Construction is always here as an additional resource to help you understand your repair and restoration options whenever you need us.