GET INFORMED ABOUT YOUR FLOOD RISKS

- You are in a home with little or no insulation and have old windows.
- You live in a home with limited ability to understand English with no access to warning information.
- Household includes adults over 62 years at risk of isolation.

GET INFORMED ABOUT YOUR HEAT RISKS

- You live in a home with limited ability to understand English with no access to warning information.
- Household includes adults over 62 years at risk of isolation.
- Family members with poor health or limited mobility.
- Financial stress and lack of emergency funds.
- Household includes children (below 5 years) that need constant supervision.
- Household includes adults over 62 years at risk of isolation.

POSSIBLE FLOOD IMPACTS:
- Your 1st floor or basement unit floods
- Your building heating systems are damaged
- Your pets are affected
- Your car is flooded
- Mold grows in your building caused by heat & humidity
- Mold grows in your building caused by heat & humidity
- You are unable to travel to work
- You suffer from heat sickness
- You are not insured for flood damage
- Your childcare or school closes
- You do not have emergency funds for recovery

POSSIBLE HEAT IMPACTS:
- Indoor temp. reaches 80 degrees & is unbearable
- Mold grows in your building caused by heat & humidity
- Your building heating systems are damaged
- You suffer from heat sickness
- Your childcare or school closes
- Your pets are affected

WHAT IS YOUR RISK?

The City has studied future flood and heat risks from climate change, which show that in the future temperature will be warmer and extreme flood events are likely to be more intense than they are today. The results from the City’s Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (CCVA) show that everyone is at risk of higher temperatures, while some homes are more prone to flooding. In all cases, we all need to prepare for a new normal best suited for renters. This toolkit can help you think through how to prepare for climate change.

GET STARTED: Once you have determined the best actions, use this resource sheet to find more detailed information and start implementing some of the identified actions to better prepare your home and your family for climate change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>When to implement</th>
<th>Cost range</th>
<th>Help</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Make sure you access a cool area during the day</td>
<td>Anytime</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Contact the Cambridge Dept. Public Health: 617-665-3800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Maintain healthy trees and gardens</td>
<td>Anytime</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Department of Public Works City Tree Planting Program: <a href="https://www.cambridge.gov/theworks/ourservices/urbanforestry/citytreeplantingprograms">https://www.cambridge.gov/theworks/ourservices/urbanforestry/citytreeplantingprograms</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Raise storage up off the floor</td>
<td>Anytime</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Check on your neighbor</td>
<td>Anytime</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Clean storm drains(s) close to your home</td>
<td>Before the next predicted rainstorm/in the fall and spring</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>Why clean storm drains? <a href="https://www.cambridge.gov/theworks/ourservices/sewermaintenance/preventivemaintenance">https://www.cambridge.gov/theworks/ourservices/sewermaintenance/preventivemaintenance</a></td>
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Now that you have identified your climate risk and how you could be impacted by flooding and extreme heat, you are informed to identify which actions might be best suited to your specific conditions to best prepare you for a “new normal” and help reduce climate change. This image shows some options to improve resiliency of your apartment. This is not a comprehensive list of all the ways you can prepare and protect, but rather a starting point of practical actions that you can take to make your home more resilient in the future.

1. Use air conditioners
   How: Talk to your property owner/manager about installing a window unit or fans.
   Why: This will provide ventilation and cooling in your apartment.

2. Make sure you access a cool area during the day
   How: Spend time in a public air-conditioned place during the day or a cooling center. Visit the Cambridge Senior Center, which is the City’s designated cooling center, or other public spaces with air conditioning.
   Why: It is important for your body to get a break from the heat.

3. Make sure your family is prepared for extreme weather
   How: Create a go-kit and sign up for emergency alerts.
   Why: It will be easy to react quickly and you will be notified if there is an emergency event.

4. Maintain healthy trees and gardens
   How: During summer months and heat waves, water plants and trees in your neighborhood.
   Why: A thriving garden and healthy trees will provide shade and a cooler neighborhood.

5. Move low personal items at risk of flooding up higher
   How: Store important documents/household items on a shelf or a watertight container.
   Why: This will reduce the likelihood of damage from flooding, including preventing mold.

6. Use low- or no-cost ways to prevent mold, mildew, and pests
   How: Use a dehumidifier on humid days. Check with the Cambridge Department of Public Health or Centers for Disease Control on best products to use to prevent mold. www.cambridgepublichealth.org or www.cdc.gov/mold
   Why: This will improve living conditions after a flooding or extreme heat event.

7. Check on your neighbor
   How: Knock on their door or give them a call.
   Why: Some people who are elderly or with chronic disease are more at risk than others, and checking in during a flooding or extreme heat event could save a life.

8. Advocate to insulate roof, basement, and exterior walls
   How: Talk with your landlord for home improvement, such as adding insulation to exterior walls. Many energy-efficiency actions also improve performance and financial incentives may be available.
   Why: It will keep your house cooler during extreme heat and will also maintain interior temperature during energy shortage due to flooding. It will also reduce electricity and utility bills.

9. Clean storm drains(s) close to your home
   How: Remove leaves and dirt that clog the grates.
   Why: This will allow for the City’s infrastructure to best capture stormwater and reduce flooding risk.

10. Hang insulated curtains over windows
    How: Install curtains or blinds in windows that are most exposed to sun.
    Why: This will prevent solar heat gain through windows in extreme heat and prevent heat loss through the windows in the winter.

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A new normal

What can you do to prepare?