

# Flash flooding is possible or expected. Do you know what to do?

## Flooding Emergency Response Card - October 2022

<p><b>Before</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Communication</b> via website/Facebook at an early stage is essential</li> <li>• <b>The Town Council maintains a supply of sand bags at the Beehive, provided by EDDC.</b></li> <li>• <b>Sand bags (not filled) and sand are available for Honiton’s residents for collection from the Town Council, Beehive, Dowell Street</b></li> <li>• Alert your Community Emergency Response Team (Flood Wardens – when in place) to the rainfall forecast, especially if heavy rain has started; cascade of information started</li> <li>• The EA Flash Flood Forecasts will alert you if sustained torrential rainfall that could lead to dangerous flash flooding at Honiton is forecast. This service is not available to the general public: just Honiton Town Council and blue light emergency responders.</li> <li>• The EA Flood Warnings notify recipients if property flooding is expected from the Gissage watercourse. This service <i>is</i> available to the general public.</li> <li>• The Emergency Plan includes maps of Honiton’s indicative flooding: <a href="#">Honiton Town Council Emergency Plan</a></li> <li>• Inform all Town Councillors.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Be aware. Know the signs.</b></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Start local observations.</b> Signs to watch for include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Heavy rain and/or severe weather reports</li> <li>○ Rainfall not draining away, leading to surface water flooding</li> <li>○ Rising river levels, with dark churning water</li> <li>○ A build-up of debris in rivers, which could give way and cause a wave of water to surge</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Establish TERG and start an Incident Log</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>During</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Report flooding</b> and blockages that may increase flood risk: phone 0800 807060 and ask to speak to your local Flood Warning Duty Officer</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Call 999 if there’s a risk to life</b>, or if you’re trapped</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stay safe. Prioritise your own safety</b> at all times</li> <li>• Be ready to relocate to a safe place, if told to do so by the emergency services</li> <li>• Do not walk or drive through flood water</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Provide support and guidance ahead of the arrival of the emergency services.</b> For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ “Stay in a safe place with a means of escape.</li> <li>○ If you’re in a building with at least two storeys and believe it’s safer to stay where you are, move to a higher storey of the building and wait for instructions from the emergency services. Turn off your gas, electricity and water mains supplies.</li> <li>○ If you are in vulnerable accommodation e.g. bungalow, caravan or tent, seek shelter in the nearest two storey building or go to higher ground</li> <li>○ Be ready should you need to evacuate your home.</li> <li>○ Cooperate with emergency services</li> <li>○ Do not walk or drive through flood water</li> <li>○ Call 999 if you’re in immediate danger”</li> <li>○ The Beehive may be provided as a safe place for people to gather</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Collect information about the flood</b>, if it’s safe to do so <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Take photos</li> <li>○ Note the date and time</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>When emergency services arrive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community Emergency Response Team coordinator to make themselves known to the Incident Commander at an early stage and may establish a tactical control centre.</li> <li>○ Provide an overview of the issues present. Relay concerns, local knowledge and issues to relevant authorities.</li> <li>○ You may be asked to help relay information to the community (e.g. by door to door visits), such as areas to avoid/promote health, safety and well-being</li> <li>○ You may be asked to assist with evacuation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cooperate with emergency services</li> <li>▪ You can provide valuable support by directing people to a place of safety e.g. temporary community shelter/official local authority rest centre</li> <li>▪ Remember: Nobody has the powers to force people out of their homes</li> <li>▪ The Community College is the designated emergency reception centre.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with emergency responders before interacting with the media, even if ‘off the record’</li> </ul>
<p><b>After</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Collect information about the flood</b>, if it’s safe to do so <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Take photos</li> <li>○ Note the date and time</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Help relay concerns</b>, local knowledge and issues to the relevant authorities</li> <li>• <b>Signpost</b> flood recovery advice e.g. <a href="http://www.bdma.org.uk/publications/flooddocs">http://www.bdma.org.uk/publications/flooddocs</a></li> </ul>

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1.

[Flooding advice - East Devon](#)

Which itself includes links to DCC and the Agency.

2.

[ex14 1lz - River and sea levels in England - GOV.UK \(check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk\)](#)

### EA Floodline

Telephone (24 hour service)

0345 988 1188

### EA Environment incident hotline

Telephone (24 hour service)

0800 80 70 60

3.

Names and contact details for Honiton Flood Wardens once identified:

4.

EDDC – Dave Whelan

[DWhelan@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:DWhelan@eastdevon.gov.uk)

Environment Agency – Kate Pearson

Flood Resilience Advisor  
Devon, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Flood Resilience Team  
Environment Agency  
Manley House, Kestrel Way, Exeter, EX2 7LQ  
07810 637 593

[kate.pearson@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:kate.pearson@environment-agency.gov.uk)

[dc.flood@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:dc.flood@environment-agency.gov.uk)

<https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/what-to-do-in-a-flood>

5.

HTC contact details as provided to the EA March 2022:

Town Council Office 01404 42957

[towncouncil@honiton.gov.uk](mailto:towncouncil@honiton.gov.uk)

CLlr Serena Sexton (Chairman) 07591111925

[s.sexton@honiton.gov.uk](mailto:s.sexton@honiton.gov.uk)

Town Clerk (Stephen Hill) 07949 150888

[clerk@honiton.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@honiton.gov.uk)