



Solihull
METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Signing up for Flood Warnings

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In all instances, you should check flood risk maps for your area to see if it is necessary to prepare yourself and family for a flood. This can be done using this [link](#).

Flooding can occur suddenly and cause severe damage in very little time. In many flood risk areas, you can [sign up for flood warnings](#). These warn of the risk of flooding from rivers and groundwater. You'll be alerted by phone, email, or text when flooding is expected. Flood warnings and alerts are not available in all areas.

Environment Agency Flood Warnings

Flood Alert

This means that flooding is possible, and you should be prepared. This level of warning is used from two hours to 48 hours in advance of flooding. You should:

- Be prepared to use the flood plan for your home or business and prepare a flood kit if you haven't already.
- Check your grab bag (more information can be found in the 'Preparing a Flood Plan' leaflet) and charge up mobile phones.
- Check water levels in the local area.



To monitor the current levels of rivers, go to the [Gauge map website](#).

The Environment Agency is responsible for providing warnings for flooding from rivers. In some areas they also provide messages about flooding from groundwater. No warning system is available currently for surface water flooding (where severe rainstorms overwhelm the normal highway drainage systems).

Flood Warning

This means that flooding is expected to occur, and so immediate action is required. It is used roughly from 30 minutes to 24 hours before the flooding is due to occur. You should:

- Protect yourself, your family, and any others who may be more vulnerable.
- Move family, pets, and valuables to a safe place.
- Put any flood protection equipment you have into place.
- Turn off gas, electricity, and water supplies if it can be done safely.
- Call Floodline on 0345 988 1188 for up-to-date local information.



Severe Flood Warning

This means that severe flooding is already taking place and there is a significant danger to life. You should:

- Stay in a safe place with an accessible escape route.
- Get ready to evacuate your home if necessary.
- Co-operate with the emergency services.
- Call 999 if yourself or others are in immediate danger.



Warning no longer in force

Remain careful; flood water may still be around for several days and could be contaminated. If you've been flooded, ring your insurers as soon as possible.

Solihull Council Flood Warnings

Supplementing the Environment Agency flood warning system, Solihull Council has developed a warning system which tracks predicted rainfall across the borough.

This when a rainfall event is predicted which would exceed the likely minimum levels for flooding to become a concern, a tweet will be sent from [@SMBCfloodalert](#) Twitter account. This tweet will advise followers of the approximate location within the borough where this storm is expected to hit and the potential timescales for this occurring.

Once the storm and risks have passed, a subsequent tweet will be issued giving the all clear.

Whilst not a substitute for the EA flood warnings, we would advise that residents also follow this Twitter account and enable notifications and alerts to stay up to date.

If you would like to know more or have had an incident of flooding, please contact Solihull Council and one of our flood risk team will be happy to help

drainage@solihull.gov.uk

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