



Unintentional water coming into your house is not fun. Whether it is a slow seeping, or as we have heard from some residents, a steady flow entering through drains or walls. We have compiled a list of helpful "to do's". This list is only helpful advice. What may work for you and your home, may not for your neighbor.

- Determine where the water is coming in. If the water is coming in due to the current snow thaw, or water is running or standing outside, attempt to make a pathway, or canal away from the house.
- Make sure gutters and downspouts are not clogged and adding to the problem. Direct downspouts away from the foundation of your house.
- Wear gloves and boots while working in the basement. You may choose to wear a protective mask
- Unplug any electronics in the basement.
- If your gas/electric appliances have been immersed in water call a professional to safely turn those off/on.
- Check the basement floor drains. Private septic tanks may have filled. Call your local septic pumper.
- Sump pump. If you have a sump pump make sure the hoses are clear and dispensing water. If pumping to the outside you will want to make sure the hose is not frozen and expelling water away from the house.
- A wet/dry vacuum. When using a wet/dry vacuum be aware of how much water you are vacuuming up. It is best to make multiple trips dumping the water, than hurting yourself with a heavy container.
- Dehumidifier. Once the standing water has been removed and you can safely plug in a dehumidifier go ahead and do so.
- Once water subsides, open doors and windows to let moisture escape and use fans to help dry out the house and prevent mold.
- When the majority of the water has been removed, a simple mop and bucket can be used to clean the area, which is not carpeted.
- When the floors and walls are dry, use an anti-mildew spray to discourage mold and mildew from developing.

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