

# Tips for Homeowners on how you can reduce your chances of having basement flooding:

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There will always be a chance that basement flooding will occur, no matter what the Village or private homeowners do to reduce the risk. Severe weather events and other factors that lead to flooding are extremely difficult to predict. While adopting and correctly implementing some or all of the flood reduction measures outlined below will help reduce the chances that a homeowner will experience flooding, there will always be a risk that basements will be flooded even if these tips are followed. It should also be noted that any of the recommendations may be implemented individually, however, many suggestions may be used in conjunction with one another to provide a greater impact in helping to reduce the risk of future flood damage.

- Overhead sewers, ejector pumps, and in minor cases standpipes, can help reduce flood issues related to sanitary sewer backup.
- Clean gutters on a regular basis and install gutter covers to prevent clogging.
- Redefine and clear swales throughout yard to allow an appropriate drainage way for storm water runoff.
- Verify existing sump pump outlet is not draining into a sanitary sewer system. Connections to sanitary systems are illegal and often contribute to additional flooding problems.
- Verify existing sump pump and outlet pipe have sufficient capacities for discharging during intense storm events.
- Provide a relief outlet for the sump pump, outside of the house, that is at a safe distance from the foundation in case of surcharge, frozen outlet pipe, or other blockage.
- Install a backup source of power for sump pump in case of electrical power failure.
- Install a backup sump pump in case the primary pump fails.
- Extend downspouts approximately 6-10 feet, away from the building foundation.
- Repair foundation cracks throughout basement to prevent seepage.
- Raise the low-entry elevation of window wells and/or install drains in the window wells and connect them to the sump pump system.

- Install glass block windows in place of basement windows (except emergency escape windows) to prevent water inflow or infiltration.
- Install drain tile system to collect excess runoff, any remaining seepage or any infiltration resulting from hydrostatic pressure.
- Be sure all electrical outlets, switches, and breakers are located above the basement floor and potential flood depths.
- Additional Information may be available at the following web links:

[https://mwr.org/sites/default/files/documents/Green\\_Guide\\_191220.pdf](https://mwr.org/sites/default/files/documents/Green_Guide_191220.pdf)

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Engineering Programs and Services (EPS), Sean Marquez at [smarquez@orlandpark.org](mailto:smarquez@orlandpark.org).