

Virginia Flood Awareness Week

March 12-18, 2023



Know your risk. Protect your property. **Get flood insurance.**

March 12-18 is Virginia Flood Awareness Week.
Prepare now for springtime flooding and the 2023 hurricane season.

The purpose of Virginia Flood Awareness Week is to educate the public about flood risk and to promote the need for flood insurance.

- Flooding is the most common and costly natural hazard.
- Anywhere it can rain, it can flood. People living in low-lying areas, near water or downstream from a dam are at particular risk.
- The Virginia Flood Risk Information System is an online tool Virginians can use to learn about their flood risk — www.dcr.virginia.gov/vfris.
- One inch of water in a home can cause \$25,000 in damage.
- Standard homeowners and renters insurance policies do not cover damage from floods.
- Flood insurance can mean the difference between recovery and financial devastation.
- A new flood insurance policy takes 30 days to go into effect. It's important to purchase coverage well in advance of a disaster.

The Town of Bridgewater participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. That means all residents are eligible for flood insurance, even if they don't live in a high-risk flood zone. As a Community Rating System community, residents also may be eligible for a 10% percent discount on their premium.

Contact an insurance agent or visit FloodSmart.gov for details.

www.dcr.virginia.gov/floodawarenessweek

For more information about Bridgewater's floodplain contact:

- Kent O'Donohue, Town Engineer & Floodplain Manager (kodonohue@bridgewater.town)
- Gwen Gottfried, Town Planner (ggottfried@bridgewater.town)
- Or call 540-908-4212.

