

# FLOODING

## In The Vale of Glamorgan

### A GUIDE



#### HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE DIVISION

VISIBLE SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
THE ALPS, WENVOE, CARDIFF CF5 6AA  
Vale of Glamorgan Council

Day tel: 029 2067 3000

FAX: 029 2067 3019

Emergency out of hours tel: 01446 747874

E-Mail: [visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

Website: [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/highways](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/highways)



#### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The first responsibility for protection of property in the event of flooding lies with the owner or occupier of the property. The owner or occupier is also responsible for any subsequent losses, repairs or remedial measures necessary. Owners or occupiers living near water courses or adjoining areas/fields which give rise to excessive water run-off should take appropriate precautions in advance of a forecast of bad weather as highway drainage systems are not designed for and cannot cope with run-off from adjoining fields.

Such precautions may include obtaining materials for sandbags, determining the positions of electricity and water supply/cut off points, keeping to hand a list of telephone contacts (numbers of emergency services, insurance company details etc.) In addition removing equipment/furniture and vehicles, which may be at risk, obtaining a supply of supplies and battery powered radios and torches should be considered. In the event of the premises being vacated, occupiers should ensure that their properties have been secured.

#### SAND BAGS

The Council has a limited number of sand bags available for issuing to the public for protection of domestic properties. Up to 15 sand bags per property, per year can be collected during normal office hours from the Council's Court Road Depot, Barry. Proof of identity is required to enable the collection. Sandbags may be used by the Council for certain operational purposes and for protection of Council property/Council houses.

The Environment Agency has a policy of not issuing sandbags to the general public, but may itself use sandbags to raise flood defences alongside certain main rivers.

Sandbags are available from various builder merchants. Alternatively, bags of sand, which are generally available, can be used. It is recommended that the sand can be placed in small suitable bags for convenience, or even pillowcases if there is nothing else suitable.

#### ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

- Has a duty under the 1995 Environment Act to supervise flood defence.
- Has the power to operate flood defence systems on main rivers and watercourses (not a duty).
- Issues flood warnings on some main rivers in the Vale of Glamorgan on a limited number of sites.

Owners/Occupiers in the area included within these sites would be contacted by the Agency and advised accordingly.

Operates a "flood line" flood warning system during periods of potential risk.

#### THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

- Maintains the highway drainage system including gully emptying and highway culverts.
- Carries out roadsweeping and cleansing.
- Has an obligation to protect Council property/houses.
- Can help with temporary accommodation for people evacuated from their homes.
- Operates a major response system in severe or major emergencies involving all the Council resources as required.
- Can offer advice to owner/occupiers of flooded properties in respect of health risks from properties affected by contaminated water.

#### THE FIRE SERVICE

- Primary role in the saving of life, protection of property, rendering humanitarian services and assistance to other Agencies and Services.
- Resources available include inflatable boats and walkways, rope rescue teams, mobile lighting and pumps, emergency vehicles and radio communications.

#### THE POLICE

- Can offer assistance where there is danger to life.
- Co-ordinates evacuation from homes.

### THE MET OFFICE

- Issues weather advice and warnings to the various agencies involved.

### DWR CYMRU WELSH WATER

- Responsible for adopted sewers / drains, pumping stations, outfalls.

### FLOODING CONTACT NUMBERS

- **Highway emergencies**

The Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Day (029) 2067 3000 Out of Hours (01446) 747874  
Web site: [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/highways](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/highways)

- **Road Cleansing**

The Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Day (029) 2067 3000 Out of Hours (01446) 747874

- **Sewage**

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water 0800 085 3968

- **Council House Flooding/Sewage/Repairs**

The Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Day (01446) 709 520 Out of Hours (01446) 747874

- **Emergency Planning**

The Vale of Glamorgan Council  
(029) 2059 6611 via Fire Control 01443 232 000  
requesting the Emergency Planning Officer for the Vale  
be paged

- **Environment Agency Floodline**

24 Hours 08459 881188  
website: [environment-agency.gov.uk/flood](http://environment-agency.gov.uk/flood)

- **Danger to life from flooding**

Fire Service 24 hours 999

- **Danger to Life**

Police 24 hours 999

- **Sand bags and supplies**

Sand bags: J.B Building Supplies, High Street  
Cowbridge

01446 773343 out of hours - 07775 585940

Sacks for sand:

South Wales Sack & Bag Co, Rhymney River Bridge  
Road, Cardiff 029 20495060

- **Met Office**

0870 900 0100 website: [metoffice.gov.uk](http://metoffice.gov.uk)