

Oswego County

Flood Recovery Info and Resources

People impacted by the high-water levels of Lake Ontario are faced with many challenges. The following information and resources can help people prepare for and recover from flooding.

Sandbags

Filled sandbags provided by New York State are available to municipalities. Residents may contact their local highway or DPW department to get them.

Mexico: 315-963-3531

New Haven: 315-963-7211

Oswego City: 315-343-5055

Oswego Town: 315-343-0397

Richland: 315-298-2567

Sandy Creek: 315-387-5456 ext. 8

Scriba: 315-343-3036

Property Flood Mitigation Assessments

Upon request, New York State may provide flood mitigation assessments for waterfront properties affected by Lake Ontario shoreline flooding. Signed agreement forms must be submitted by waterfront property owners before the assessments can be made. Requests should include the public benefit of conducting flood mitigation at that location and NYS will make the decision on whether an assessment will be conducted. NYS agreement forms are available from town clerk's offices and at the City of Oswego East Side Fire Station, from the Oswego County Emergency Management Office, and on the county website. Forms must be returned to municipality's town clerk or, for residents in the City of Oswego, to the city's East Side Fire Station, 35 E. Cayuga St.

Drinking Water Precautions

Residents in flooded areas should avoid using water from private wells for drinking or cooking until it is determined to be safe for consumption. After floodwaters recede and any needed repairs are made, the well should be flushed, disinfected and tested. Residents can take steps to do this on their own or call in a well contractor or driller to complete the work. For more information, call the Oswego County Health Department's Environmental Division weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 315-349-3557 or e-mail healthdept@oswegocounty.com.

Protect Yourself from Mold and Dust

Residents affected by flooding should wear NIOSH-certified N95 disposable safety masks during post-flood cleaning. The N95 mask resembles a paper dust mask but offers more protection. Those with pre-existing conditions that impact breathing such as asthma, COPD or emphysema should check with their healthcare provider before using a mask. Residents can pick up free masks from their local municipality.

Take Care of Your Health by Getting a Tetanus Shot

Residents affected by flooding should get a Td/Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccination to protect themselves during the clean-up process. For more information, call the Oswego County Health Department weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 315-349-3547.

First Aid for Your Home or Cottage

- Turn off the electricity and gas
- Unplug all flooded appliances (with the power turned off)
- Flush, disinfect and test wells that were flooded
- DO NOT pump septic tanks, unless they are modern concrete tanks, as they may collapse
- Take photos to document the damage
- Remove and salvage keepsakes and other valuables
- Remove mud and other debris from the home while it is still damp
- Get fresh air moving throughout the home

Important Flood Recovery Community Resources

Oswego County Emergency Management Office

<http://www.oswegocounty.com/emo.shtml>

315-591-9150

Oswego County Health Department

315-349-3540

healthdept@oswegocounty.com

<https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/emergency/flood/>

<https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2802.pdf>

<https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/7064.pdf>

<https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/6614.pdf>

New York State Flooding Hotline

1-866-244-3839

NYS DEC Region 7 Environmental Permits

315-426-7438

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/89343.html>

NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services

<http://www.dhSES.ny.gov/recovery/>

American Red Cross

1-800-733-2767

<http://www.redcross.org/get-help>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Recovery Resources

<https://www.fema.gov/recovery-resources>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Weekly water level forecast is updated every Thursday

<http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/Great-Lakes-Information/Great-Lakes-Water-Levels/Water-Level-Forecast/Weekly-Great-Lakes-Water-Levels/>

NY Sea Grant "Erosion Management for New York's Great Lake Shorelines"

<https://seagrant.sunysb.edu/glcoastal/pdfs/ErosionManagement.pdf>

Oswego County Emergency Management Office

Dale A. Currier, CEM, Director
200 N. Second St., Fulton NY 13069
315-591-9150



Oswego County Health Department

Jiancheng Huang, Public Health Director
70 Bunner St., Oswego NY 13126
315-349-3540