

Fact Sheet

Why Buy Flood Insurance

April 2018

In or Out of the High-Risk Flood Area—<u>Everyone</u> Needs Flood Insurance

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey in 2017, approximately 80 percent of households impacted by the storm did not have flood insurance.

Did you know?

- ✓ Floods are the nation's most common and costly natural disaster, causing billions of dollars in damage each year.
- ✓ Homeowners and renters insurance does not typically cover flood damage.
- ✓ Floods can happen anywhere. In fact, 98% of counties in the United States have experienced a flood and more than 20 percent of flood claims come from properties outside the high-risk flood zone.
- ✓ If your property is in a low-to-moderate flood risk area, your flood insurance could be much more affordable than you might think.

Just one inch of water in an average-sized home can cost more than \$25,000 in damage. You can recover faster and more fully after a disaster with flood insurance. Call your insurance agent and buy a policy today.

As long as your community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, you can buy flood insurance for your property. There's typically a 30-day wait period between when you purchase the policy and when it becomes effective. Find questions to ask your agent to ensure you purchase the coverage you need at <u>FloodSmart.gov</u>.

What You Need to Know About Disaster Assistance:

You can submit a flood insurance claim even in the absence of a Presidential disaster declaration.

Most federal disaster assistance comes in the form of low-interest disaster loans from U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

A claim against your flood insurance policy could, and often does, provide more funds for recovery than those you could qualify for from FEMA or SBA after a Presidential disaster declaration.