

Three Steps to Cost-Effective Home Flood Protection

Step 1: Maintain what you've got at least twice per year, (do-it-yourself, \$0).

- 1.1) Remove debris from nearest storm drain or ditch and culvert.
- 1.2) Clean out eaves troughs.
- 1.3) Check for leaks in plumbing, fixtures, and appliances.
- 1.4) Test your sump pump.
- 1.5) Clean out your backwater valve.

Step 2: Complete simple upgrades, (do-it-yourself, for under \$250).

- 2.1) Install window wells that sit 10 to 15 centimeters above ground, and windows well covers where fire escape requirements permit.
- 2.2) Disconnect downspouts, cap foundation drains and extend downspouts and sump discharge pipes to direct water at least two meters from foundation.
- 2.3) Store valuables and hazardous materials in watertight containers and secure fuel tanks.
- 2.4) Remove obstructions to floor drain.
- 2.5) Install and maintain flood alarms.

Step 3: Complete more complex upgrades, (work with a contractor, for over \$250).

- 3.1) Install a rain garden to collect stormwater, at least five meters from the foundation.
- 3.2) Convert paved areas to vegetation which absorbs more water and less heat.
- 3.3) Correct grading to direct water at least two meters away from foundation.
- 3.4) Install backwater valve.
- 3.5) Install backup sump pump and battery.

For more information and resources visit www.intactcentre.ca