



1.11 Flood recovery supplies and work

Folder with resources and templates: [1.11 Flood recovery supplies and work](#)

This section is focused on flood recovery for homes and other buildings, but can be useful for other disasters. These instructions were compiled by NEK Organizing, which has mucked and gutted hundreds of homes in the Kingdom.

Managing flood site and survivor information

- ☐ Vermont will tell people to call 211 to report flood damage. While this is helpful and important to have state data, relief organizations then have to comb through all 211 calls to find flood survivor data. This can be incredibly time consuming, and is a good place for volunteers that cannot do physical labor.
- ☐ Create a [flood survivor/site sheet or tracking system](#) that includes information about the site, the contact information for the survivors, and any other important information going forward into the recovery phase (damage to water, sewer, foundation, etc).

Managing flood recovery supplies

- ☐ Store supplies—for relief, response, recovery—in a place that is dry, flood safe, and accessible by many people. If possible, utilize a lock with a code if possible and have more than one location per town.
- ☐ A cache of pumps, safety equipment, and demolition tools stocked and pre-packed so they're ready for the four types of work that immediately follow flooding: pumping, mucking, gutting, and mold remediation.

Systems	Stuff
Pumping Pumping is the process of removing water from the home via sump, trash, and transfer pumps.	
<p>If there is a sheen to the water, note that oil and/or petroleum may be present. Contact your state's Department of Environmental Conservation before pumping to prevent further, more costly damage to the home.</p> <p>NOTE: Be aware that pumping a basement before water outside has receded may compromise the foundation due to pressure from outside.</p>	<p>Order water testing kits from the Department of Health at healthvermont.gov/lab/forms</p> <p>Sump Pump Kit: Sump pumps are good for removing <u>clean</u> water and are often the first tool to grab post-flood.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Sump Pump <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Hose(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension cord(s) <p>Other helpful pumps to have on hand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Trash Pump (with hose, filter, and extension) for water mixed with debris <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer Pump (with hoses and extension cords) for the last few inches of water on the floor
Mucking Mucking is the process of shoveling, raking, squeegeeing, and hauling mud, silt, and wet belongings out of the home.	
<p>Notes for team leaders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect and share information on hazardous conditions - trash, sharps, 	<p>Work Tote: 20-gallon, heavy duty plastic tote filled with safety equipment for 5 people mucking and/or gutting a home. Work totes go out on every job, with every crew, no matter what.</p>



<p>gas leaks, sewage contamination, etc with volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish location for hazardous materials to be gathered • Identify handwashing station • Demonstrate using proper PPE. And, be prepared for a dynamic in which volunteers are using PPE and residents are not; volunteers get to leave and residents have to remain. It can be helpful to make volunteers aware of this dynamic before heading to the home you're mucking. • Remind volunteers to use proper ergonomics and take breaks to rest and hydrate. • If possible, have a nurse onsite or at your volunteer headquarters to offer tetanus shots! 	<p>Work Tote pack list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor bags - 1-2 rolls <input type="checkbox"/> Goggles - 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Tyvek suits - 5-10 <input type="checkbox"/> P100 respirators (plastic w cartridges) - 5 <input type="checkbox"/> N95 masks - 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Nitrile/hospital gloves - 1 box/bag of S, M + L <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber grip work gloves - 5-10 <input type="checkbox"/> Hand sanitizer & Sani wipes- 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Paper towels - 1 <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit - 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen - 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Bug Spray - 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Narcan - 4+ <input type="checkbox"/> Earplugs - 10+ <input type="checkbox"/> Duct tape - 1 <p>Other Muck Tools (not stored in tote)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Head Lamps <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof/Muck Boots <input type="checkbox"/> Flathead Shovel <input type="checkbox"/> Spade Shovel <input type="checkbox"/> Giant Floor Squeegees <input type="checkbox"/> Steel Garden Rakes <input type="checkbox"/> Power Washer <input type="checkbox"/> Tarps (to slide debris around and also to protect the floor—especially if there isn't a bulkhead and muck and debris needs to come up the stairs inside the home) <input type="checkbox"/> Jet Sled <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Cart/Wheelbarrow <input type="checkbox"/> 5-gallon Buckets <input type="checkbox"/> Generator <input type="checkbox"/> Extension Cords <input type="checkbox"/> Work Lights on Pedestals and/or Clips
<p>Gutting House Gutting is the process of removing sheetrock, insulation and water-logged permeable materials in order to expose joists, studs, subfloor, etc. Gutting allows a home to dry out.</p>	
<p>YOU CANNOT DRY A HOME USING DEHUMIDIFIERS ALONE. Even though gutting is another painful step amidst profound loss, it is absolutely necessary in order to prevent mold.</p>	<p>Gut Kit: 5-gallon bucket filled with demolition equipment for a 5-person crew, useful when mucking is done and there is no longer water inundating the space.</p>



<p>Notes for team leaders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect and share information on hazardous conditions - trash, sharps, gas leaks, sewage contamination, etc with volunteers • Identify handwashing station • Demonstrate using proper PPE • remind volunteers to use proper ergonomics and take breaks to rest and hydrate 	<p>Gut Kit pack list (for gutting flooded buildings in addition to the Work Tote)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Flat crowbars, roughly 15" - 5+ (flat prying tool with beveled ends for removing sheetrock, flooring, trim, and wall panels) <input type="checkbox"/> Boxcutters/utility knives - 5+ <input type="checkbox"/> Extra blades - 5+ <input type="checkbox"/> Hammers - 5+ <input type="checkbox"/> Cat's paw - 1 (small prying tool used for pulling stubborn nails better than a hammer) <input type="checkbox"/> Chalk Line - 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> Bit box - 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Screwdrivers - 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> Earplugs - 10+ <input type="checkbox"/> Tape measure - 1+ <input type="checkbox"/> Sharpie - 1+ <p>Other Gut Tools (not stored in tote)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Sawzall/Reciprocating Saw <input type="checkbox"/> Impact driver <input type="checkbox"/> Head Lamp <input type="checkbox"/> Dehumidifier <input type="checkbox"/> Fans <input type="checkbox"/> Extension Cords
<p>Mold remediation Mold remediation happens once wet debris, walls, flooring, and insulation are removed.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Introduce light and air to the space via dehumidifiers, fans, and open doors and windows. <input type="checkbox"/> Apply either a vinegar solution or mold-killing fungicides (not bleach) once moisture levels are below 17 percent in studs and joists. While some fungicides can be applied in wetter environments, it's best to apply chemicals to very dry surfaces for the best outcomes. 	<p>Mold Remediation Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Moisture reader <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture sprayer and/or industrial spray bottles <input type="checkbox"/> Shockwave, white vinegar, or EPA-certified fungicide (not bleach) <input type="checkbox"/> HEPA-filtered vacuum <input type="checkbox"/> Wire brushes <input type="checkbox"/> Deck brushes or other stiff brushes with long handles <input type="checkbox"/> Full PPE: P100 respirators, goggles, rubber gloves, tyvek suits <input type="checkbox"/> Scrapers, pallet knives, blades