Useful information in relation to emergency planning, flooding and the provision of sandbags

Emergency Planning Team - Derbyshire County Council - available 24 hours a day: Office hours on 01629 538364 or out of hours via Call Derbyshire 01629 533085

We would take the initial request and pass the information on to the relevant department who would then deal with the request. There is no cost to providing sandbags to residents.

The Emergency Planning Team also has a stock of empty woven polypropylene sandbags, which residents fill with soil and will give the same benefits of a sandbag. These can be provided to residents or if there is a central location within your parish where these can be stored we can provide a larger number for residents to collect should there be a risk of flooding.

We also recommend residents sign up for flood warnings which can be done via the following link: Sign up for flood warnings - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) This will give residents the ability to receive notifications of potential flooding via phone, text or email.

The national flood forum is a really useful website providing information on reducing the risk to flooding/preparing for flooding/what to do during a flood and the recovery aspects following a flood. National Flood Forum – A charity to help, support and represent people at risk of flooding.

There is no guarantee of sandbags being delivered as it is on a best endeavours basis, and could take a number of hours especially out of hours, so essentially not to rely on this as a mitigation measure for flooding events.

District/boroughs and highways are limited especially during events such as floodings due to the demand on the departments and resources.

Our key message is about being prepared, and self-help. If you have somewhere to store them, we could also offer a few boxes of the floodsax (which expand and soak up water). There are also the alternatives that can be purchased by residents online http://www.floodsax.co.uk/.

All the information on flooding can be found on our website at Flooding - Derbyshire County Council

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Amber Valley Borough Council (Tel: 01773 570222)

Sandbags: Sandbags are available from builders' merchants. Other protection systems are available commercially, see the National Flood Forum Blue Pages for guidance.

Residents of Amber Valley may obtain a supply of 10 free empty sandbags and guidance literature from the Ripley office.

The council recognises that many residents look to the council for emergency assistance in times of crisis, therefore aims to provide a limited number of free filled sandbags where there is an immediate risk of flooding. This is in line with the Derbyshire wide sandbag policy and is based on an assessment of risk. The assessment will consider:

- Whether the property has been flooded before
- The source of the potential flood

- How far the water is from the residential property
- Known vulnerable properties.

This service is subject to the availability of staff out of hours, please call 01773 841414 out of hours.

Responding to flooding: When flood alerts or severe weather warnings are issued, residents living in areas deemed at risk of flooding can call Amber Valley Borough Council to request free filled sandbags, however these will only be issued in line with the agreed sandbag policy. In emergency situations **no guarantees** can be made in terms of how soon sandbags can be sent out as staff may need to be called in (especially out of office hours) to fill sandbags. This is a very heavy, time-consuming job and dependent upon flooded road conditions detours may need to be taken to deliver the bags. Only small numbers of sandbags are stored already filled as the bags will rot if stored full. As such it is strongly advised you equip yourself with sandbags before any risk of flooding arises.

Derbyshire Fire Service Information

See the following webpages:-

https://www.derbys-fire.gov.uk/safety/water-safety/flooding

https://www.derbys-fire.gov.uk/safety/at-home/what-to-do-in-an-emergency-1/what-to-do-if-there-is-a-flood