**What to do AFTER the flood**

Follow the instructions of the authorities before taking any action, like going back to the house, shovelling mud, emptying water from basements, etc.

- Do not pass along flooded roads: there may be chasms, potholes, open manholes or severed wires. In addition, water may be contaminated by fuel or other substances.
- Pay attention to areas where the water has receded: the road surface may be weakened and collapse.
- Check to see if you can reactivate the gas and the electrical system. If necessary, ask for the advice of a technician.
- Before drinking tap water make sure that municipal ordinances or warnings do not prohibit it; do not eat food that have come into contact with floodwater: it could be contaminated.

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**What to do BEFORE the flood**

During this phase, when an alert is issued, some preventive actions can be taken to reduce the risk.

- Stay informed on any risks in the area and the measures adopted by your Municipality.
- Do not sleep in basements and avoid staying there.
- Protect premises located at street level and shut the doors of cellars, basements or garages only if doing so does not expose you to danger.
- If you need to move, first evaluate the path and avoid areas that might get flooded.
- Evaluate if you need to secure the car or other properties: it can be dangerous.
- Share what you know about the alert and on correct behaviours.
- Check that your child’s school is informed of the ongoing alert and is ready to activate its own emergency plan.

Before drinking tap water make sure that municipal ordinances or warnings do not prohibit it; do not eat food that have come into contact with floodwater: it could be contaminated.
**What to do DURING the flood**

**If you are indoors**
- Do not go down in the cellars, basements or garages to secure the goods: you will risk your life.
- Absolutely do not go outside to secure the car.
- If you are in a basement or ground floor, go to the upper floors.
- Avoid the elevator: it may get stuck.
- Help the elderly and people with disabilities who are in the building.
- Turn off the gas and the electrical system. Do not touch wirings and equipment with wet hands or feet.
- Do not drink tap water: it may be contaminated.
- Limit mobile phone use: leaving phone lines free facilitates relief efforts.
- Stay informed on how the situation evolves and follow directions provided by the authorities.

**If you are outdoors**
- Move away from the flooded area: due to the speed at which water flows, even a few inches could make you fall.
- Reach quickly the nearest high area or move to the higher floors of a building avoiding heading to slopes or artificial embankments that could collapse.
- Be careful where you walk: there may be chasms, potholes, open manholes etc.
- Avoid using the car. Even a few inches of water may cause you to lose control of the vehicle or cause the car turning off: you will run the risk of being trapped.
- Avoid underpasses, embankments, bridges: stopping or transiting in these places can be very dangerous.
- Limit mobile phone use: leaving phone lines free facilitates relief efforts.
- Stay informed on how the situation evolves and follow the directions provided by the authorities.