



Post-Flood Fire Safety Checklist

After a flood, several actions should be taken to reestablish the fire safety of a facility. These include:

Building and Grounds

- ☐ Check for washouts that may have undermined roads, buildings, water mains, or gravity tank foundations.
- ☐ Check to ensure roads for fire department access are open and undamaged.
- ☐ Clear fire exits of debris and floodwater barriers (e.g., sandbags).
- ☐ Clear fire hydrants of any debris that might hinder access by the fire department.
- ☐ Conduct a damage assessment as soon as the area is safe to enter.
- ☐ Provide access to building and grounds by clearing debris from outside areas. ☐ Review emergency evacuation plans and adjust, if needed, to accommodate flood damage.

Fire Protection Equipment

- ☐ Check fire pump intakes and discharges for obstructions, and clean, if necessary.
- ☐ Check sprinkler valves for operation and proper settings.
- ☐ Drain or pump out all valve pits that contain water or silt.
- ☐ If the temperature will fall below freezing, provide temporary heating for the sprinkler system.
- ☐ Inspect all fire protection equipment for physical damage, including sprinkler heads, valves, and pipes.
- ☐ Inspect and clean all portable extinguishers that have been submerged.
- ☐ Perform a main drain test, after fully servicing the automatic sprinkler system.
- ☐ Remove, clean, and dry any fire hoses that were submerged in water.
- ☐ Replace fire pump electric motors, and overhaul internal combustion motors that have been under water.
- ☐ Test fire alarm and detection systems for proper operation.

Flammable and Combustible Liquids and Gases

- ☐ Check flammable and combustible liquids or gas containers for damage.
- ☐ Check bulk tanks for damage, broken piping, and settling of tanks.

Heating and Electrical Equipment

- ☐ Ensure that all cords and equipment used during recovery efforts are listed or approved for wet locations.
- ☐ Have equipment that has been flooded cleaned, dried out, and the electrical insulation tested.
- ☐ Have heating equipment serviced by a qualified technician before returning it to operation.
- ☐ Monitor generator use for a carbon monoxide buildup, power back feeds, and improper fueling.