



For more information about the NFIP  
and flood insurance, call  
1-800-427-4661  
or contact your  
insurance company or agent.

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For an agent referral, call  
1-888-435-6637  
TDD 1-800-427-5593

<http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip>

<http://www.floodsmart.gov>

CALL YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY OR  
AGENT TODAY!

National Flood Insurance Program

# Top Ten Facts for Consumers

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FEMA



# TOP TEN FACTS

## **every consumer needs to know about the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)**

### **1. Everyone lives in a flood zone.**

- ✓ You do not need to live near water to be flooded.
- ✓ Floods are caused by storms, melting snow, hurricanes, water backup due to inadequate or overloaded drainage systems, as well as broken water mains.

### **2. Flood damage is not covered by homeowners policies.**

- ✓ You can protect your home, business, and belongings with flood insurance from the NFIP.
- ✓ You can insure your home with flood insurance up to \$250,000 for the building and \$100,000 for its contents.

### **3. You can buy flood insurance no matter your flood risk.**

- ✓ It does not matter whether your flood risk is high or low. Anyone in a community that participates in the NFIP can buy building and/or contents coverage, with very few exceptions. Some Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) areas, Otherwise Protected Areas (OPAs), and buildings principally below ground or entirely over water are not eligible for National Flood Insurance.
- ✓ It is a good idea to buy even in lower-risk areas because over 20 percent of all NFIP claims come from outside mapped high-risk areas.

### **4. The low-cost Preferred Risk Policy is ideal for homes and businesses in moderate- to low-risk areas.**

- ✓ Homeowners can insure buildings and contents for as little as \$129 per year. Business owners can insure buildings and contents for as little as \$567 per year.
- ✓ Residential renters can insure contents for as little as \$49 per year.

### **5. Flood insurance is affordable.**

- ✓ About 90 private insurance companies nationally offer affordable flood insurance backed by the Federal Government. Contact your local agent.
- ✓ Policies are available to homeowners, condo owners, apartment owners, renters, and business owners alike.

### **6. Flood insurance is easy to get.**

- ✓ You can buy flood insurance through licensed property insurance agents; call yours today.
- ✓ You can purchase flood insurance with a credit card.

### **7. Contents coverage is available to homeowners, businessowners and tenants.**

- ✓ Up to \$100,000 contents coverage is available for homeowners and renters.
- ✓ Whether you rent or own your home or business, make sure to ask your insurance agent about contents coverage. It is not automatically included with the building coverage (except under the Preferred Risk Policy).

### **8. Up to a total of \$1 million in flood insurance coverage is available for non-residential buildings and contents.**

- ✓ Up to \$500,000 of coverage is available for non-residential buildings.
- ✓ Up to \$500,000 of coverage is available for the contents of non-residential buildings.

### **9. There is usually a 30-day waiting period before coverage goes into effect.**

- ✓ Plan ahead so you are not caught without insurance when a flood threatens your home or business.

### **10. Federal disaster assistance is not the answer.**

- ✓ Federal disaster assistance is available only if the President declares a disaster.
- ✓ Flood insurance pays even if a disaster is not declared.