

# FLOODING - ADAPTATION OPTIONS

## Flood monitoring & forecasting

• Monitor your area for conditions that could lead to flooding. This could be things like:

- heavy rains
- high water in lakes/river
- rapid snow melt
- ice jams

• Some flood watch and warning programs already exist (like Ontario's Flood Watch and Warning Program) or communities may want to create their own.

• Flood forecasting models (made specifically for a community or area) look at what conditions have led to flooding in the past to try to predict what conditions will likely cause flooding in the future.

### Water control structures

- Structures like dams, dikes and berms are sometimes used for flood control in areas where floods have happened before.
- Structures like ice booms are sometimes used to prevent ice jams from forming.



• Wetlands and natural forest spaces can help absorb water from rain and spring melt and provide natural flood protection.

### Avoid building on flood plains

- A flood plain is an area of low-lying ground next to a lake or river. These areas are more likely to have flooding issues.
- Traditional knowledge about past floods and high water levels can give valuable information about which areas may be at risk of flooding.

# Drain water away from buildings

- Keep water from entering homes and buildings with:
  - eavestroughs, drain pipes, weeping tile
  - trenches to direct water away
  - sloping the ground away from foundations
- consider the slope of the land and how water will drain when choosing where to build homes/buildings.



- A good community drainage system (ditches, culverts, water storage areas, etc.) can help prevent flooding from heavy rain or during spring melt.
- Regular maintenance (clearing blockages, replacing damaged culverts, etc.) can help keep drainage systems working well.

# Community planning 🗐

 consider flooding in community planning, like when deciding where to build homes/buildings, where/how roads should be constructed, plans for drainage, etc.



• In areas where ice jams are common, weakening the ice to melt it faster can help prevent a jam or make it less severe.

#### Emergency planning

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- · Emergency planning can help keep people safe.
- Community emergency plans could include: evacuation plans, refuge centres, plans to protect infrastructure, etc.
- Households can prepare by: having emergency supplies, knowing what to pack for evacuations, knowing the community emergency plan, etc.



• Pile snow in a places where melt water can drain away safely from buildings and other infrastructure.



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