

Flood-Damaged Waste Checklist

✓ Contact Your Insurer First

- Notify your insurer before removing any waste or equipment.
- Take clear photos of all damaged items.
- If there's a delay, confirm whether an Environmental Health Officer visit is required for verification.

✓ Secure Waste Storage

- Double-bag perishables and store them in a pest-proof area until collection.
- Avoid allowing waste to pile up near bins to prevent attracting pests.

✓ Arrange Collection

- Collections are currently taking place in all areas.
- Larger items can be left outside, but be careful not to block access.

✓ Check Existing Waste Contracts

- Contact your waste management provider for advice.
- Confirm with your insurer whether disposal costs are reclaimable.

✓ Safety Precautions

- Wear gloves when handling contaminated items.
- Wash hands regularly with liquid soap.
- Avoid splashing or aerosolising contaminated water.
- Wear a mask (similar to COVID precautions) to reduce risk.
- Do not pressure wash, as this creates airborne particles and health hazards.
- Contact Environmental Health for advice on food safety, pest control, or health concerns: **01873 735420**.

✓ Electrical Items

- Large electrical items submerged in floodwater must be disposed of.
- Items such as fridges, freezers and ovens, where the motor or fan is inside the body of the item, must be thrown away. It is not possible to clean and disinfect these items.
- Smaller items not in contact with the flood water can be cleaned, disinfected, and PAT tested by a suitable qualified electrician to ensure they are safe to use.
- If the flood water affected your electrical system, then it should be inspected by a suitable qualified electrician before energising the system.