



Environmental Health

500 W. Winchester Road
Libertyville, IL 60048
Telephone: (847) 377-8020

Hours

Monday	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Thursday	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

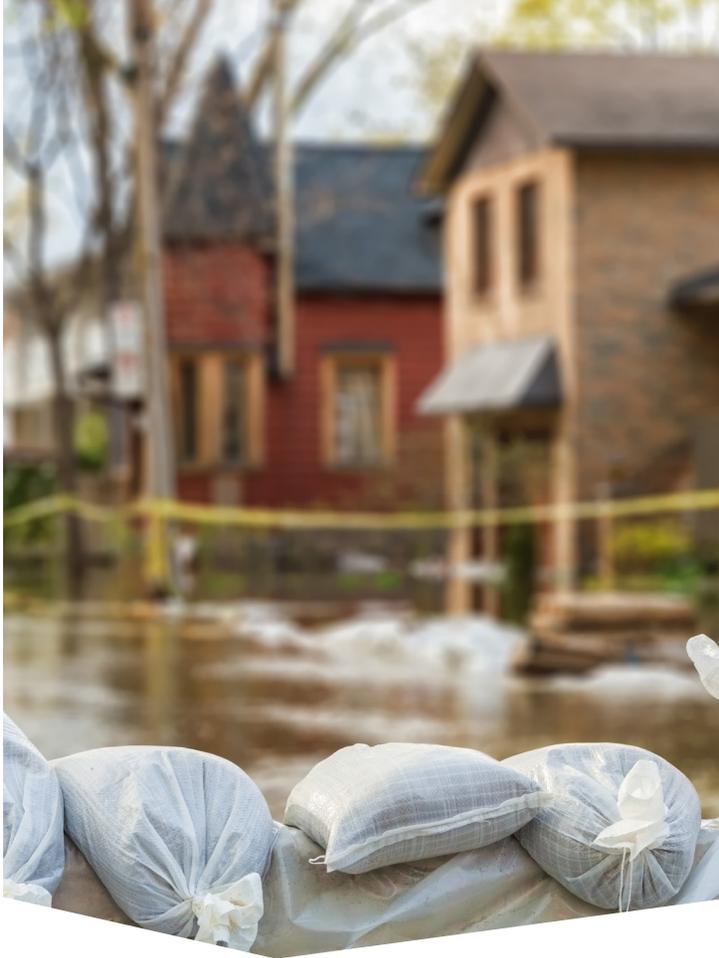
Immediate cleanup of sewage or floodwater is very important for your health.

Heavy rains and floods can often cause issues with septic systems. Wastewater from a flooded septic tank can contaminate your home.

The Lake County Health Department provides the following guidelines for cleaning after flooding and sewer backups.

Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center

Web: health.lakecountylil.gov



Cleaning Up After Flooding or Sewer Backups



General Safety

- Make sure all electrical power is turned off in the affected area.
- Keep children away from contaminated areas.
- Keep pets away from contaminated areas. Pets may spread contamination to clean areas.

Avoiding Illness

- Wear rubber gloves when cleaning.
- Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and hot water before eating or drinking.
- Shower with soap and hot water immediately after cleanup. Be sure to scrub your hands, face, and fingernails
- **Do not** eat food from contaminated areas, unless the food is canned. Thoroughly wash all sealed cans in good condition and immerse them in a bleach solution for at least five minutes.
- Throw out contaminated bottles, food not in cans, and food in dented, bulging, or leaking cans.
- See your doctor as soon as possible if you or your family experience diarrhea. Diarrhea is common after exposure to sewage or contaminated water.

Cleaning Guidelines

- Air out the contaminated area before cleanup. If this is not possible, take frequent “fresh air” breaks during cleanup to avoid nausea from strong odors.
- Use household cleaning solutions (pine oil or ammonia solutions) or liquid chlorine bleach (1/4 cup per gallon of water) to disinfect contaminated areas.
- **Do not** combine ammonia and chlorine products. If this occurs, toxic gas can form.
- Use detergent and tap water to scrub furniture, walls, fixtures, and appliances.
- Wash clothing and bedding with hot water and detergent.
- Throw away contaminated items that are difficult to clean and disinfect, such as carpeting, upholstered furniture, bedding, and mattresses.
- Throw away contaminated cloth toys and stuffed animals.
- Disinfect plastic toys in chlorine bleach solution and then air dry.
- Dry the area as quickly as possible after cleaning using fans, dehumidifiers, and open windows. This will help prevent mold and mildew.

