If you have to go through the water - walk where the water is not moving. Use a stick to check the depth of water and the strength of the soil.

- If you drive, do not block the streets and roads so that rescue teams can function smoothly.
- Do not walk the flooded streets, underpasses or underground passages. The water may be deeper and faster than it looks, and high water could destroy your car.
- If you are surrounded by the floodwater, leave the vehicle and, if possible, move on to the higher ground.
- Avoid areas which are known for landslides and rockslides.
- Pay attention to the instructions which have been adopted by the relevant institutions. They manage the emergency situations and coordinate the work of rescue teams.

How to proceed after the flood?

- Listen to the news reports about the water supply, as well as whether it is safe to drink water.
- Avoid flood water - it may be contaminated by sludge, oil, and gasoline or sewage water. Water can be under high voltage by underground cables.
- Avoid flowing water.
- Be careful in the areas from which the flood waters receded, the roads may be damaged and dangerous.
- Return to your homes only after the competent authorities declare that it is safe.
- Do not use electrical appliances before checking.
- Clean and disinfect all surfaces.
- Stay away from buildings which are surrounded by flood waters.
- Be careful when entering the building due to the potential damage you cannot immediately notice.
- Bring back in function the damaged septic tanks and other sewage systems as early as possible - if they are damaged, they can become a major health risk.
- Clean and disinfect everything that is soaked in water. The sludge that remains after the flood water may contain sewage waste and chemicals.
- If you notice dead animals, inform the relevant department using the telephone numbers - 123 or 112.

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**What to do to prevent flooding and to reduce the consequences?**

- Become acquainted with the history of floods in your area.
- Design your own plan to protect yourself, your family and property in the event of flooding.
- During the period when there is no flood behave responsibly; do not throw waste into rivers, streams and canals.
- If there is already waste in the river beds and channels, inform the relevant waste disposal service and participate in the cleaning of water flows.
- In the cities where heavy rains have increased the water flow, do not throw waste and do not cover the manholes which serve for rainwater drainage.
- Do not construct dams on waterways in order to accumulate water during the summer period.
- Prepare basic reserves of food, water and medicines.
- Lift the electronic equipment on a safe place.
- If possible, prepare sacks with sand, which you can put on the entrance in case of flood and close all of the places in the house through which the water can enter.
- Find escape routes and safe places for evacuation.
- If you live downstream the dam, you need to know the signal for danger, how much time you need to evacuate and where exactly is the safe border for evacuation in case the dam breaks.
- Plan how to inform the other tenants in the building (neighbouring houses) about the risk of floods, preventive measures and protection and rescue procedures.
- Keep being informed through the media on the current status and warning of a possible flood.

**How to act during floods and evacuation?**

- Seek the information on the radio, television and via Internet for necessary information.
- If there is a risk of flash floods, immediately move to higher floors of the house. Do not wait for instructions to do this.
- Be cooperative and collaborate with rescue teams.
- Wear clothes and shoes which protect against water.
- Tighten the measures of personal hygiene in order to preserve health and prevent epidemics.
- Do not drink tap water until you are sure it is safe to use because in the flooded areas, drinking water may be contaminated. Until then, one should drink bottled, boiled and disinfected water.
- Do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in the water.
- Do not use telephone unless it is really necessary in order not to block the telephone network and the lines necessary for the organization of rescue and evacuation.
- If you are unable to leave your home, go to the top floor of the house and wait for the rescue teams.

**If you must evacuate - leave home:**

- Turn off all electrical appliances, turn off the gas and disconnect power at the main switch, even if there is no electricity in your home.
- Evacuate the domestic animals, and if that is not possible, release them from the buildings in which they are located.
- Take the prepared bare necessities. Remember to take personal documents and the necessary drugs, because it is possible that you will be away from home for a longer period of time.
- Do not by any means cross the bridge and go along the rivers, floodflows, slopes, etc.
- Do not cross the rapids and streams. The flood wave can sweep you away.
- Carefully follow the directions and other information published by the competent institutions. In this way you will avoid dangerous areas.
- Do not walk through the moving water because 15cm deep water may cause a fall.