

Checklist to rebuild smarter, stronger and safer after Sandy

(simple steps to follow for my hazard planning)

- Know my Risk.** Review local flood maps to understand my property's flood risk.

- Develop a Plan.** Activities to protect my property and reduce the impact of flooding. Things to consider:
 - Elevate our home above the floodwaters.
 - Elevate electrical and heating systems.
 - Install exterior floodwalls to protect window wells or stairs against low-level flooding.
 - Install a backflow valve in the sewer line.

- Finalize my Plan.** Contact my local building official before rebuilding/renovating /retrofitting. Make sure my plans meet local and state government requirements. Get proper permits.

- Be Smart When I Start.** Use reliable, licensed contractors. Get a written estimate. Check references. Pay by check.

- Get Insurance.** National Flood Insurance Program – helps cover costly losses associated with flooding. Visit www.floodsmart.gov.

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