

Office of Risk Management
RISK ALERT
No. 2021-14

RE: Flash Flood Watch – Ida

August 31, 2021

The National Weather Service issued a Flash Flood Watch in effect from **Wednesday, September 1, 2PM** until **Thursday, September 2, 2PM** for portions of southeastern, central, and western Massachusetts.

The remnants of Tropical Storm Ida are forecast to track towards southeastern Massachusetts on Wednesday, with the anticipated impact of a weakened Nor'easter on Thursday. The biggest threat will be heavy rains, with 2-4 inches expected, though locally it could be closer to 4-6 inches. Excessive rainfall will increase the risk of urban and poor drainage flooding.

Efforts to protect property should now be underway. We urge you to make the following preliminary preparations:

- **Check sump pumps to ensure they are working properly.**
- **Check that all drains, grates and basins are free of leaves and debris.**
- **Anchor outdoor items**, such as trash cans and lawn furniture, or bring them into an enclosed area.
- **Immediately inspect trees and bushes.** Remove dead or rotting branches that could fall and cause injury or damage.
- **Be prepared for potential power outages.** Have an emergency supply kit on hand, including water, flashlight, extra batteries, a first aid kit and non-perishable food. Disconnect appliances and other electrical items that will automatically go on when service is restored. Power surges can cause significant mechanical damage. Before the storm arrives, fully charge your cellular phone and other electronic devices, as well as rechargeable batteries.

For more information on flood remediation, go to:

<https://rcabrisk.org/knowledgebase/flood-remediation/>

Reporting a Claim

If you experience property damage or injury as a result of the storm, report the claim immediately at 617-746-5743 or via the online form at: <https://rcabrisk.org/property-claim-report/>. For a list of service vendors, go to: <https://rcabrisk.org/vendors/>.