

Develop Business Emergency Plan

Overview

- Developing a business emergency plan will help business owners better prepare for emergency situations including flooding.
- Having a business emergency plan may also help the business owner save money on flood associated costs and increase resiliency to flood damage.
- Before creating an emergency plan, assess what threats are likely to affect the property (e.g. coastal flooding, hurricanes, wind, riverine flooding, public health crises, etc.).
- Create your emergency plan with these identified potential threats in mind.
- Things to include in the emergency plan:
 - Evacuation plan
 - Flooding adaptation strategy and implementation plan
 - Signing up for Delaware Emergency Notification System (DENS)
 - Safety procedures
 - Communications plan
 - Emergency evacuation routes
 - Emergency information and contacts
- Practice implementing the business emergency plan at least once per year.
- Although this method will not extend the life of the actual property, it can give Delaware business owners more time before emergency situations to evacuate and implement any temporary flooding strategies for the structure. The business owner may save on flood damage costs as well as ensure the safety of all employees.



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Key Takeaways

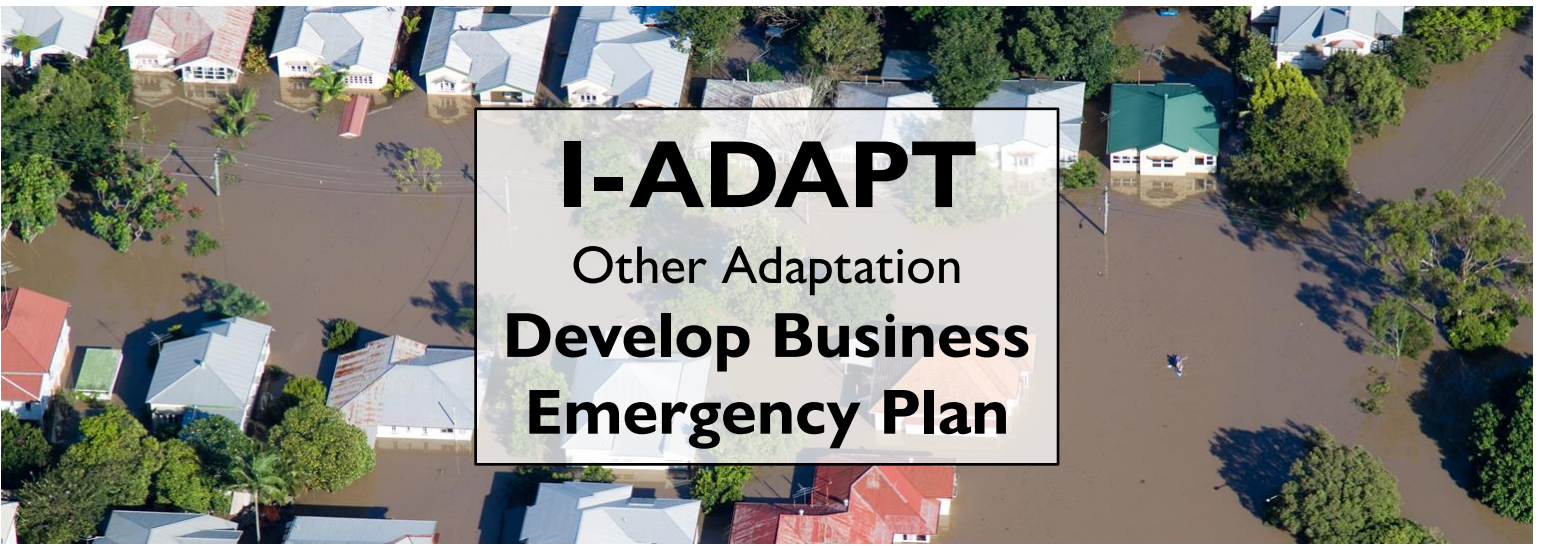
During flood events and other disasters, the health, safety, and welfare of Delawareans may be at risk.

When residents receive warning of emergency conditions, it is important that they are ready to respond quickly to better ensure their comfort, cost savings, and even survival.

In order to better prepare for emergency conditions such as flooding, develop a Business Emergency Plan for your business.



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Other Adaptation Develop Business Emergency Plan

Estimated Costs/Benefits

*U.S. dollars (2022), estimates are subject to change

Potential Costs		Potential Benefits	
Item	Estimate	Post-Flood Recovery	Estimate
Business Emergency Plan	\$0	All employees evacuate the building and survive the emergency	Immeasurable
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	\$0	ESTIMATED TOTAL SAVINGS	Immeasurable

Additional Actions

- Sign up for the Delaware Emergency Notification Systems (DENS).
- Consult with neighbors and/or the community regarding evacuation procedures if necessary.
- Implementation of any temporary flooding adaptation strategies.

Permitting Agencies

- No permits are required.

Expected Maintenance

- Update any changing information on the emergency contact list.
- Update the business emergency plan as needed.

Who to Contact

- DEMA
- Your city or town officials

Additional Resources

- [Delaware Emergency Management Agency \(DEMA\)](#)
- [Delaware Emergency Notification System \(DENS\)](#)
- [Delaware Homeowner Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards](#)
- [Ready.gov](#)

Resources can also be found at <https://de.gov/iadapt>

Technical definitions and more information are located on the I-ADAPT website: <https://de.gov/iadapt>.



This information is intended to be used for planning purposes. It is not intended to substitute or take precedence over the guidance of design engineers, contractors, utility companies or regulatory agencies.

For more information, contact DNREC's Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy at DNREC_IADAPT@Delaware.gov

