

Homeowner NFIP Flood Insurance

Overview

- Although National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) homeowner insurance does not prevent flood damage from happening, it can help pay for the damages caused by flooding.
- For homes with government-backed mortgages in high-risk flood zones or homes that have received Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants, flood insurance is required.
- FEMA recommends flood insurance for all homes.
- Most standard homeowner insurance policies do not cover flood damage.
- There are two types of NFIP flood insurance coverage:
 - Building coverage – Coverage for the essential building characteristics (electrical system, furnace, foundation walls, refrigerator, etc.) and the permanently installed components (bookshelf, carpeting, paneling cabinets).
 - Contents coverage – Coverage for the building contents including personal belongings (clothing, furniture, electronics, etc.), washing machine and dryer, portable air conditioners, carpets installed over wood, original artwork, etc.
- It is possible to get a discount on flood insurance outside of high-risk areas.
- Items not covered by NFIP homeowner insurance:
 - Please visit <https://www.floodsmart.gov/> for information on items not covered under National Flood Insurance Program homeowner insurance policies.



Photo credit: USACE HQ is licensed by CC

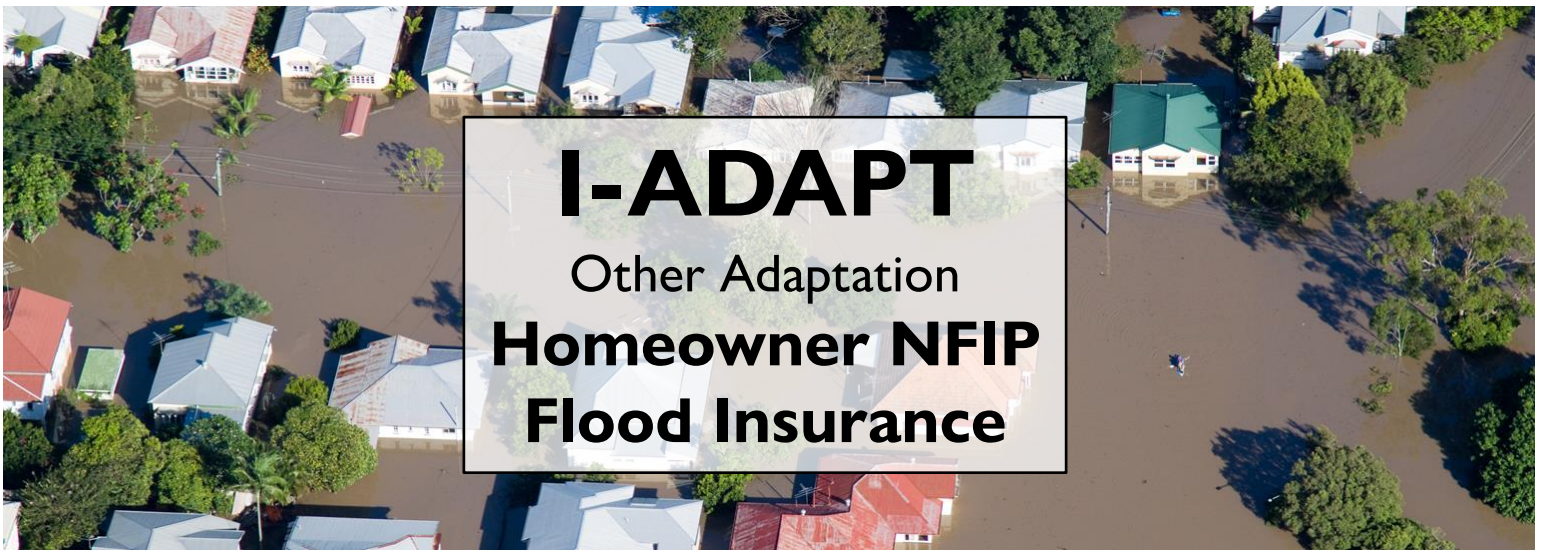
Key Takeaways

During flood events, flood water entering the building can damage personal property. According to FEMA, just one inch of flood water can cause as much as \$25,000 in damage to a home.

Federal disaster assistance typically does not supply enough funds to cover what the actual damage will cost to repair.

To avoid replacement or repair costs related to flood damaged or destroyed personal property, homeowners can purchase homeowner flood insurance from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).





I-ADAPT

Other Adaptation Homeowner NFIP Flood Insurance

Estimated Costs/Benefits

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

Potential Costs	Potential Benefits	
	Post-Flooding Recovery Action	Estimate
FEMA has updated the NFIP's risk rating methodology through an insurance pricing method called Risk Rating 2.0. This methodology allows FEMA to assign rates that are equitable, understandable and reflective of a property's risk. NFIP Homeowner Flood Insurance rates are determined at the structure (building) level.	NFIP reimbursement for flood damaged structure	Up to \$250,000
	NFIP reimbursement for flood damaged contents	Up to \$100,000
	ESTIMATED TOTAL SAVINGS	Up to \$350,000

Additional Resources

- [Community Rating System](#)
- [FEMA's Flood Insurance Finder](#)
- [FEMA's Risk Rating 2.0](#)
- [National Flood Insurance Program](#)
- [NFIP Policy Building and Contents Coverage](#)

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

Additional Actions

- Personal belongings in the basement will not be covered. Therefore, valuables will need to be moved to a different floor.
- Consider purchasing a waterproof safe to protect valuables that are not covered by flood insurance.
- If a community participates in the Community Rating System program within the federal flood insurance program, homeowners could get 5-45% off flood insurance premiums.
- An elevation certificate may be required.

Permitting Agencies

- No permits are required to apply for NFIP Insurance.

Expected Maintenance

- Adhere to insurance policy requirements.

Who to Contact

- A local National Flood Insurance Program licensed agent

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

