

Secure Items in Yard

Overview

- During storm events, flood waters and high winds can pick up unsecured items in the yard and carry them away.
- Additionally, the items can become projectiles and can cause serious damage to the primary building or neighboring properties during flooding events.
- Secure all large loose items in the yard by anchoring them to the ground, deck, patio, etc. prior to any storm or flooding event.
- Large yard items include:
 - Chairs
 - Tables
 - Firepits
 - Grills
 - Trampolines
 - Benches
 - Small swimming pools
 - Swing sets
 - Toys
 - Etc.
- Move all small items inside prior to storm events.
- Small items include:
 - Table umbrellas and chairs
 - Potted plants
 - Toys
 - Balls and sporting equipment
 - Etc.
- This strategy will not prevent flooding on the property but will reduce flood damage associated costs.



Photo credit: Taylor Heery licensed by unsplash

Key Takeaways

During storm events, water may flood yards.

Flooding can damage items in the yard and/or carry unsecured items away from the property. Additionally, unsecured items in the yard could become projectiles during large flooding or wind events.

To help avoid flood damage costs, secure all loose items within the yard.



I-ADAPT

Yard Adaptation

Secure Items in Yard

Photo credit: ukgardenphotos is licensed under CC

Estimated Costs/Benefits

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

Potential Costs		Potential Benefits	
Item	Estimate	Post-Flood Recovery Actions	Estimate
Anchors	\$15-\$30 for a set of 4	Replace missing or damaged items in yard	Cost of the items destroyed
Rope	\$10-\$20	Repair damage to the siding of the primary structure	\$200-\$5,000
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	\$25-\$50+	ESTIMATED TOTAL SAVINGS	\$200-\$5,000+

Expected Maintenance

- If items are not permanently secured to the ground, patio, or deck, temporarily secure the large items prior to any storm or flooding event.
- Check any fastenings annually for corrosion or damage.

Additional Resources

- [Delaware Homeowners Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards](#)

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

Additional Actions

- Move small items into the house before flooding and storm events.

Permitting Agencies

- Check with your city and/or county government for local flood ordinances or regulations.

Who to Contact

- [811 Call Before You Dig](#)

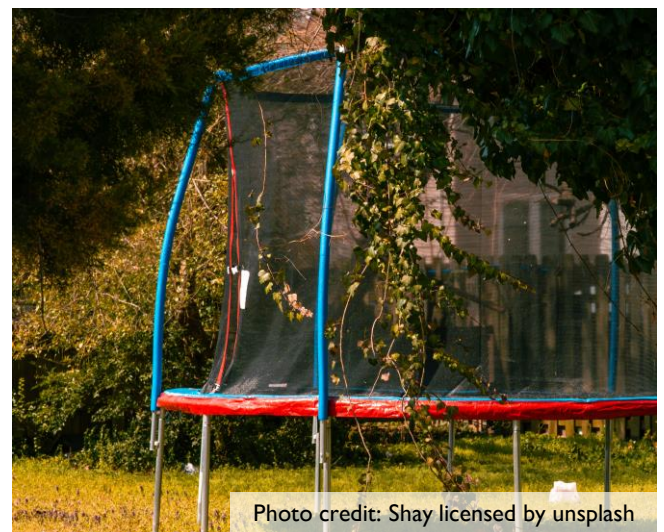


Photo credit: Shay licensed by unsplash

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

