

# SCAVENGER HUNT

BECOME A #HOMEFLOODPROTECTOR



Here's where the fun starts! Adults are so busy with work, preparing meals and paying bills that they rarely have time to think about what they can do to protect their homes from flooding.

**Now's your chance to become your family's #HomeFloodProtector!** Lead your family to complete this scavenger hunt so that you can avoid seeing your favourite belongings damaged after a big rainstorm hits. Are you ready to become a superhero and help your family protect your home from flooding?

**Introducing the newest superhero: The #HomeFloodProtector!** Being a superhero doesn't have to be hard. Simply complete this scavenger hunt with your family and you'll help protect your family's favourite things from being damaged in a flood.

To stay safe and be respectful, don't leave your property without your parent's or guardian's permission. Stay on the sidewalk as you search for outdoor items. Obey social distancing rules to help keep you and your neighbours healthy. Most importantly, have fun!

#    **Share on Social to Help Your Neighbours!**

**Show Off Your New #HomeFloodProtector SuperPowers!** If you can, take pictures of your examples as you complete the scavenger hunt. Make sure to get permission from your parent/guardian first! Some examples of pictures you can share include:

1. Take a before and after picture of a storm drain that was blocked by garbage
2. Take a picture of your favourite belonging that was in the basement and how you put it away to keep it safe
3. Count the number of trees on your property and share a picture of your favourite tree
4. Take a picture of yourself or your pet wearing your homemade #HomeFloodProtector costume

**Tag our social media account:** @GreenLearning on your pictures and/or videos using the hashtag: #HomeFloodProtector  
If you need more help visit:

<https://programs.greenlearning.ca/flooded>

You might not have all the items listed in the scavenger hunt. That's OK! Just move on to the next one.

## Items to Look for Outside Your Home

## How Can This Help Protect My Home From Flooding?

### 1. Storm Drain



Put an '✘' if you find a storm drain that is blocked with things such as leaves, snow or garbage.



Put a '✔' if you find a storm drain that is free from all debris like this picture.

Storm drains that are free of all debris allow water to drain quickly from the street and reduce flood risk.

### 2. Eaves Troughs



Put an '✘' if it is clogged with leaves, seedlings, etc.



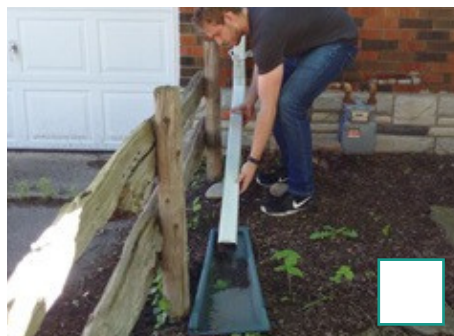
Put a '✔' if it looks like there are no items blocking the flow of water.

Clogged eaves troughs can cause water to overflow beside the home, increasing flood risk.

### 3. Downspouts



Put an '✘' if the downspout deposits water right at the side of the house like this.



Put a '✔' if the downspout deposits water about 2 metres away from the side of the house or to a low point in between houses that carries water away from the home.

Downspouts that deposit right at the side of a house increases the risk that the water will seep into the basement. Having downspouts that deposit water 2 metres away from the side of the house or to a low point in between houses that carries water away from the home helps to keep your home dry and reduces the risk of flooding.

Item to Look For  
Outside Your Home

How Can This Help Protect  
My Home From Flooding?

4. Rain Barrels



Put an '✘' if the rain barrel pours everywhere when it is full because it does not have a way to direct water at least 2 metres away from the house.



Put a '✔' if the rain barrel has a way to direct water at least 2 metres away from the house when it is full (e.g. with overflow pipes or connections to other rain barrels) or if water flow is blocked to the rain barrel when it is full and sent back into the downspout using a diverter (as shown in the photo).

Rain barrels are a great way to store rainwater but if it doesn't have a way to direct water safely away from the house when it is full it can increase the risk of flooding.

5. Window Wells



Put an '✘' if your window wells sit lower than 10-15 centimetres above the ground.



Put a '✔' if your window wells sit at least 10-15 centimetres above the ground. Bonus points if you find window well covers.

Window wells that sit lower than 10-15 centimetres above the ground can't keep water away from low windows during rainstorms.

6. Landscaping



Put a '✔' if you have lawn and gardens.



Put an additional '✔' if you have trees and shrubs

Trees and shrubs can help soak up extra water from rainstorms and melting snow and ice.

## Item to Look For Outside Your Home

## How Can This Help Protect My Home From Flooding?

### 7. Stored Items



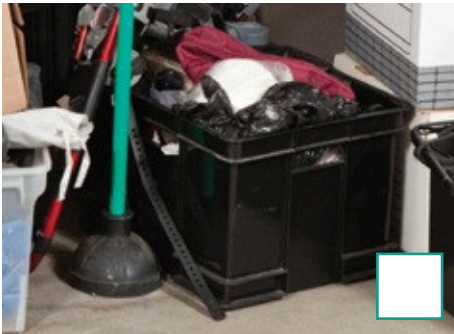
Put an '✘' if items in your basement garage are on the floor and can easily get wet if there's a flood.



Put a '✔' if items are stored safely. This could include placing valuable items in plastic containers on a shelf (like the picture) or moving them out of your basement or garage.

Items stored in places like garages and basements are at a higher risk of being damaged by floods. Keeping your valuables protected by placing them in plastic bins or up on a shelf is a great way to keep them safe.

### 8. Floor Drains



Put an '✘' if your floor drain is blocked by household items.



Put a '✔' if your floor drain is clear and not blocked by household items.

A clear drain removes water from your floor quickly, minimizing any flood damage.

### 9. Sump Pump



Put an '✘' if you have a sump pump that has never been tested.



Put a '✔' if your sump pump has been tested every spring and fall.

Sump pits collect water from pipes underground around the outside of your home. Sump pumps take the water out of your sump pit and pump it away from your house. Sump pumps should be tested every spring and fall to make sure they are working when they are needed.

## Items to Look for Inside Your Home

## How Can This Help Protect My Home From Flooding?

### 10. Flood Alarm



Put an '✘' if your flood alarm has no flood alarm.



Put a '✔' if your home has a flood alarm.

Flood alarms that have been tested every spring and fall will detect leaks and floods as soon as possible so your family can take action to protect your home.

### 11. Backwater Valve



Put an '✘' if your backwater valve is in need of being cleared and tested.



Put a '✔' if your backwater valve is cleared and tested every spring and fall.

Cleaned backwater valves will ensure it is working when it is needed to protect your home from flooding.

# CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'RE DONE!

How many ✘'s did you get? \_\_\_\_\_

The X's identify where you can take steps to better protect your home from flooding.

How many ✔'s did you get? \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations! The more checkmarks you put down the more steps your family has already taken to protect your home from flood damage.

