



prevent that **SINKING** feeling.

**You can't be absolutely certain that your home will not flood.** However, there are many precautionary measures you can take to avoid or minimize flooding damages. Help prevent that sinking feeling.

### DO YOUR PART

*Help prevent flooding  
in your neighbourhood*

- Leaves and yard waste that are left to pile up in the roadway, ditches or sidewalks can clog catch basins and prevent the free flow of water. Check your waste calendar for Leaf and Yard waste collection dates in your neighbourhood.
- When outdoors, dispose of your garbage properly. If you litter, a build-up of debris can create blockages in the sewer system.
- If you see larger debris on the roadway, please call 905-546-CITY (2489) to have City workers remove and dispose of it in a safe manner.
- Maintain the swale on your property. The swale is usually located on the property line between properties. A swale is a shallow trough-like depression that carries water during rainstorms or snow melts.
- Keep your eavestroughs clean. When your eavestroughs are blocked, the rain will pour over the edges landing on the ground next to your home. If you have cracks in the cement wall of your basement or problems with your weeping tile, this water could enter your home.

### HELPFUL YEAR-ROUND TIPS

- Don't pour grease such as bacon or hamburger fat down the sink and into the sewer system. The grease may stick to the sides of your sewer pipe or the City's sewer pipe. Over time, this could build up and create blockages within the system.
- Complete a comprehensive inventory of your possessions supported by photographic and/or video documentation in the event that you may need to submit an insurance claim for water damage.
- Do not sit appliances, furnaces and water heaters directly on the floor in your basement. If possible they should be set on a stable platform of appropriate material such as cement blocks.
- Minimize the amount of hard surface such as cement, driveways and walkways on your property. Rainfall should be absorbed into the ground. When this is prohibited by hard surfaces, water will flow in the most natural direction.



Find out more at [hamilton.ca/floodaware](http://hamilton.ca/floodaware) or call 905 546-CITY