The facts show: Flood insurance is the prudent choice.

Flood insurance from the NFIP puts you in control. You won't have to wait in line to apply for disaster assistance. Homeowners, business owners, and renters can all buy flood insurance, as long their community participates in the NFIP.

Flood insurance claims are paid even if a disaster is not declared by the President. Claims are paid promptly, so flood victims can recover quickly. If you file a flood insurance claim, you may also request an advance partial payment for your immediate needs.

Flood insurance reimburses you for all covered losses. Homeowners can buy up to $250,000 of coverage; businesses, up to $500,000. Separate contents coverage is available, so renters can also buy protection.

The risk of flooding is real. Don't gamble any longer.

For more information about the NFIP and flood insurance, call
1-800-427-4661
or contact your insurance company or agent.

For an agent referral, call
1-888-435-6637
TDD 1-800-427-5593

http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip
http://www.floodsmart.gov

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National Flood Insurance Program

What You Need to Know about Federal Disaster Assistance and National Flood Insurance

FEMA

When it comes to flood insurance, do you have feelings like these?

"Who needs flood insurance? If my home or business is ever flooded, disaster assistance will bail me out."

"Flood insurance is too expensive."

"We're not going to be flooded. This area has never been flooded."

Answers to Common Misconceptions about Flood Insurance

"Who needs flood insurance? If my home or business is ever flooded, disaster assistance will bail me out."

THE FACTS ARE:

- Before most forms of federal disaster assistance can be offered, the President must declare a major disaster.
- The most common form of federal disaster assistance is a loan, which must be paid back with interest.
- The average federal Individuals and Households Program (IHP) award is around $4,000.
- To qualify for federal Home Repair Assistance, your home must have relatively minor damage that can be repaired quickly.
- You don't qualify for federal Rental Assistance unless your home has been heavily damaged or destroyed.

"Flood insurance is too expensive."

THE FACTS ARE:

- The average duration of a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster home loan is 30 years.
- The recipient of a $50,000 SBA residential disaster loan must pay back about $240 a month at four percent interest.
- The average premium for federally backed flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is about $500 a year.

"We're not going to be flooded. This area has never been flooded."

THE FACTS ARE:

- Floods are the most common, and most costly, natural disaster.
- In the past several years, about 60 percent of all declared disasters involved flooding.
- Because more roads, buildings, and parking lots are being constructed where forests and meadows once stood, floods are becoming more severe throughout the U.S.
- In areas with the greatest risk of flooding, Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs), a building has a 26 percent chance of being flooded during a 30-year mortgage.
- Approximately 25 percent of all flood insurance claims paid by the NFIP are for property outside of SFHAs.