

A SAFER OTTERY



VOLUNTEERING

**BEING
PROTECT YOUR
FAMILY**

FLOODING

FIRE SAFETY

ADVICE FROM THE POLICE

SAFETY IN THE HOME& FIRST AID

THE TOWN COUNCIL'S EMERGENCY PLAN

**PREPARED TO
HOME AND**



YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU IN EMERGENCIES

Are you willing to help out in the event of an emergency in our local community? If so, Ottery St Mary Town Council would like to hear from you. The Town Council has prepared a plan and has the equipment but there's little that we can achieve without the help of volunteers.

The emergency services are there to carry out rescues but there's much more that community volunteers can do taking precautions and in

We have to be prepared to happen, at least until the over. It's what being a caring reliant and volunteering to

So if you are willing to help in touch by phoning 01404 tc.gov.uk



to help spot developing events, in helping people in distress.

help one another when emergencies responsible authorities are able to take community means. We need to be self-help out is a crucial first step.

and are 18 years and over, please get 812252 or [enquiries@otterystmary-](mailto:enquiries@otterystmary-tc.gov.uk)

There's lots that you can do to be ready for the unexpected. It's not just flooding although that is important and is covered on a separate page on our website.

An excellent guide can be found at:

www.dcisprepared.org.uk/a-clear-plan

Watch the short video – it's by children and it's really good. It covers how to prepare for emergencies, including flooding.

Check
List
Emergency Bag
Act
Recover

There's a related leaflet and a format to help you prepare your own Home Emergency Plan, all available to you on the same website:

www.dcisprepared.org.uk/a-clear-plan

Devon County Council has the lead for emergency planning.

You can find out more at the following websites:

www.dcisprepared.org.uk/community_resilience

www.devon.gov.uk/index/councildemocracy/publicsafety/emergencies.htm

FLOODING



It's not just the River Otter that can create the risk of floods. There's flash flooding from streams and surface water flooding can happen just about anywhere. So be prepared.

To find out if you are at risk from rivers, visit the website at:

<http://maps.environment-agency.gov.uk/>

GULLIES, DRAINS AND AUTUMN LEAVES

Blocked gullies and drains can quickly cause surface water flooding. So clear your own gullies and drains and keep an eye out for problems nearby. Wearing gloves is a good idea and



don't put yourself at risk from passing traffic. If road gullies and drains are blocked with silt and mud, call the County Highways Department on **0345 155 1004** Thanks for your help.

SAND BAGS - How to get them

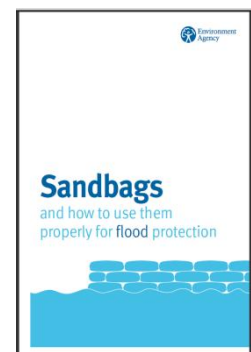
You can collect empty sand bags from the Town Council offices during normal office hours (that's Monday to Friday, between 10.00am and 1.00pm). You will need to use your own sand. Out of Office hours please phone 01404813403 or 01404 811583. If you are at risk, keep a stock at your home. Don't wait till it's too late.

SAND BAGS - How to use them

Sandbags offer some protection by keeping water out for short periods when used together with plastic sheeting. Garden soil can be used in emergencies as a substitute for sand.

There's lots of helpful advice about using sand bags available from the Environment Agency:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sandbags-how-to-use-them-to-prepare-for-a-flood>



THERE ARE BETTER ALTERNATIVES

As well as showing how to use sand bags, the leaflet lets you know about their limitations and provides some pointers about better options.

FURTHER ADVICE

The National Flood Forum provide wide ranging advice: <http://www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk/>

A FREE FLOOD RECOVERY GUIDE

The website of the trade organisation, *Know Your Flood Risk*, provides free advice. Its leaflet about recovering from a flood might be helpful should the worst happen. www.knowyourfloodrisk.co.uk/sites/default/files/FloodRecoveryGuide_Interactive.pdf

FIRE SAFETY

Every year thousands of people within the UK experience a fire in the home. Tragically,

some result in injury or death. The damage caused by fire can be devastating. Fires can be prevented if hazards are identified and dealt with.

You can find helpful advice from the Fire and Rescue Service at: www.dsfire.gov.uk

- Fit a working smoke alarm
- Take care when cooking and never leave cooking food unattended
- Plan and practise your escape route
- Make a bedtime check
- Don't overload your electrics
- Put cigarettes right out
- Use candles carefully
- Have your chimney swept regularly

Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue Service offers FREE 'home fire safety visits' to people who may be a higher risk, such as the elderly especially those living alone, those with mobility, vision or hearing impairment, mental health services users, and those with alcohol or drug issues. If you would like advice or know someone else who might need help, call **0800 7311 822**.





Devon & Cornwall Police
Building safer communities together



ADVICE FROM THE POLICE

You will see our local beat officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) on our streets. They work from a base in the Town Council's office building. There's an outside phone if you need to contact them.

There's lots of advice on their website about personal, property and road safety as well as information on how to contact them.

See: <http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/>

SAFETY IN THE HOME & FIRST AID

SAFETY IN THE HOME

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) provides lots of advice and video clips about safety in the home on topics such as:

- Carbon Monoxide Safety
- Child Safety
- Christmas Safety
- Fireworks Safety
- Gas Safety
- General Home Safety
- Older People Safety
- Product Safety
- Safety of the Built Environment



See: <http://www.rospa.com/home-safety/advice/>

FIRST AID

St John Ambulance provides helpful advice with video clips on topics such as:

- First aid for parents
- First aid techniques
- What to do as a first aider
- And a whole range of specific problems.

See: <http://www.sja.org.uk/sja/first-aid-advice.aspx>

The British Red Cross provides similar advice:



See: <http://www.redcross.org.uk/What-we-do/First-aid/Everyday-First-Aid>

