

Program Profile

Purpose

- The Emergency Flood Damage Reduction program (EFDRP) provides assistance with the implementation of emergency flood damage reduction or prevention measures in 2013 for communities, rural municipalities, businesses, non profit organizations and individual farm and country residences to prevent damage from imminent flooding. First Nations that may be impacted by flooding are encouraged to contact AANDC or the Water Security Agency for support.
- Imminent flooding includes situations in which private residences and associated yardsite buildings are threatened by flooding which is in progress or where a water body has attained an elevation such that additional precipitation poses a significant risk to adjacent development.
- Protecting citizens from water borne illnesses is an important aspect of providing security during and after a flood. The program will provide testing and advice on disinfection, if needed, for private ground water supplies that may have been affected by flood waters.

Regulations and Conditions

- The program is directed at the protection of private residences and associated yardsite buildings and is not intended to be used to protect farmland. Ground water seepage into buildings is not covered under the program.
- Program assistance is available for communities, rural municipalities, businesses, non-profit organizations, rural yard sites and country residences. This is a continuation of the 2012 Program, initiated in 2011.
- The program provides cost-sharing assistance for flood protection activities provided:
 - the work will provide protection from imminent flooding;
 - The program will cover costs incurred up to Dec 31, 2013 enabling works built before and during the flood permanent to provide long term protection.
 - the work has been recommended by an engineer or technical specialist;
 - approval to undertake the work is secured in advance, when possible, from the Water Security Agency;
 - the applicable regulatory approvals are obtained prior to the start of construction.
- Where possible communities with a known flood risk will be contacted but those at risk should immediately implement protective measures and contact the Water Security Agency to access the program.
- Where an applicant has short and long-term needs, the Water Security Agency will encourage construction of least cost works to address the imminent flood risk.

- In some cases structure relocation may be a cost efficient option. This activity can be funded under this program.
- The program will not provide funding for activities which qualify for assistance under the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program administered by the Ministry of Government Relations.
- Temporary works and supplies purchased under this program, such as sandbags or temporary water tubes or barriers, may only be cost-shared under this program by the original purchaser. In the event of resale by the original purchaser program funding must be reimbursed to the Water Security Agency.
- Assistance in cities, towns and resort villages must be coordinated through the municipality. Water Security Agency will reimburse the municipality at the appropriate rate.
- Inquiries for engineering and technical assistance, applications for financial assistance under the program, and testing and analysis services for private ground water supplies, should be directed to the Water Security Agency's regional offices.

Procedure

- The first step in accessing the program is to submit a request to the Water Security Agency for technical assistance. Where there is sufficient time, a technical investigation will be undertaken and a brief report recommending options to mitigate flooding will be prepared and submitted to the applicant.
- Upon approval of the flood protection options by the Water Security Agency, the community, rural municipality, business, non-profit organization or rural landowner (proponent) is required to sign an agreement with the Water Security Agency outlining the flood protection measures to be developed, and the provincial/proponent cost-sharing provisions.
- Once the agreement is signed, the proponent will hire a contractor to undertake the work. Upon completion of the work, or at monthly intervals, original paid receipts will be submitted to the Water Security Agency for payment in accordance with the cost-sharing provisions. Unpaid invoices supporting the expenses claimed will be considered by the Water Security Agency in the case of hardship.
- Where there is insufficient time prior to flooding the agreement may be executed subsequent to commencement of work.
- As a condition for assistance, the proponent shall hold the Water Security Agency and the contracted consultants, agents and contractors contracted to the Water Security Agency harmless from all damages or claims which may result from works and groundwater testing undertaken pursuant to this program.
- A listing of the program activities which will be covered by cost-sharing is outlined in the General section.
- Inquiries regarding emergency flood management plans, disaster assistance and recovery efforts will be directed to the Ministry of Government Relations.

Assistance

The program is intended to assist in the development of flood mitigation measures to protect homes and permanent structures throughout Saskatchewan from imminent flooding. Financial assistance will be provided by the Water Security Agency in accordance with the following categories:

a) Communities and Rural Municipalities

100 per cent of costs for technical assistance, including engineering advice

Engineering and other technical support to evaluate the potential flood risk to structures and to identify works or other measures to mitigate the risk will be covered. Services are expected to include client discussions, site visits, hydrologic and other technical evaluations, and the development of mitigation recommendations. These services provide the basis for the emergency flood protection activities that are available through the other components of the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program.

75 per cent of costs for construction of long-term works such as berms, diversion channels or channel improvements to protect communities

Cost-shared funding to construct emergency long-term flood protection works. Works eligible for assistance include emergency berms, diversion channels, channel improvements, and other emergency works required to protect communities from flooding. Works will be designed to have an immediate flood protection benefit, but could also form part of a permanent flood protection measure. Construction activities must adhere to all federal and provincial regulatory provisions. Eligible project costs will include original contractor invoices and the cost of local government equipment at standard industry rates including labour.

100 per cent of the cost for sandbags

Sandbags are available to municipalities from the Ministry of Government Relations. If municipalities purchase them directly Water Security Agency will cover the cost. Individuals should obtain sandbags from their local government.

50 per cent of costs for temporary structures for short-term protection

Cost-shared funding to implement short-term, non-permanent emergency measures to prevent imminent flooding. Eligible measures include sand and the filling and placement of sandbags or other temporary dyking systems (such as water filled tubes), machinery costs for temporary structures, and channel clearing. Construction activities must adhere to all federal and provincial regulatory provisions

b) Rural Yardsites and Country Residences

100 per cent of costs for technical assistance, including engineering advice (as outlined above for communities)

85 per cent of costs for berm construction to protect property on farmsteads or country residences

Cost-shared funding to construct emergency flood protection works for unorganized rural development. Works eligible for assistance include the construction of emergency berms, channel improvements and channel clearing to provide flood protection, and efforts to maintain private farm access roads. These works would be designed to have an immediate flood protection benefit, but could also form part of a permanent flood protection measure. Landowners may use their own equipment, excluding labour, and cost-sharing will be based on appropriate equipment rental rates. Construction activities must adhere to all federal and provincial regulatory provisions. Eligible project costs will include original contractor invoices and the appropriate equipment rental rates.

100 per cent of the costs to test private ground water supplies impacted by flooding

The program will provide assistance for sampling and analysis of private ground water supplies that were overwhelmed by flood waters and may have become contaminated. Service includes an on-site sampling by technical staff, laboratory analysis of the sample, and communicating the results of the laboratory analysis. As almost all wells require shock chlorination after flooding, testing of wells will only be provided after shock chlorination has been conducted. Lab analysis is limited to nitrates, total coliform and E-coli which are the typical contaminants associated with flooded wells. This service is available to residents using private water supplies, community wells, water cisterns and small community systems which have been affected by flood waters. However, this service does not guarantee the safety of the water supply and the well owner maintains responsibility for the use of the supply.

c) Businesses and Non Profit Organization

100 per cent of costs for technical assistance, including engineering advice

Engineering and other technical support to evaluate the potential flood risk to structures and to identify works or other measures to mitigate the risk will be covered. Services are expected to include client discussions, site visits, hydrologic and other technical evaluations, and the development of mitigation recommendations. These services provide the basis for the emergency flood protection activities that are available through the other components of the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program.

85 per cent of costs for construction of long-term works such as berms, diversion channels or channel improvements to protect businesses

Cost-shared funding to construct emergency long-term flood protection works. Works eligible for assistance include emergency berms, diversions channels, channel improvements, and other emergency works required to protect communities from flooding. Works will be designed to have an immediate flood protection benefit, but could also form part of a permanent flood protection measure. Construction activities must adhere to all federal and provincial regulatory provisions. Eligible project costs will include original contractor invoices.

50 per cent of costs for temporary structures for short-term protection

Cost-shared funding to implement short-term, non-permanent emergency measures to prevent imminent flooding and recover from flooding. Eligible measures include sand and the filling and placement of sandbags or other temporary dyking systems (such as water filled tubes), machinery costs for temporary structures, channel clearing and similar initiatives. Construction activities must adhere to all federal and provincial regulatory provisions.

General

- Information for the emergency flood damage reduction program is available at the Water Security Agency regional offices or on the website (wsask.ca).
- Information for flood preparedness is available at SaskEMO or at the website (www.cpsp.gov.sk.ca/SaskEMO).
- Activities and works covered by the program provisions:
 - Engineering support
 - Construction of dykes/berms
 - Installation of culverts
 - Construction of diversion works (Approvals required)
 - Sandbags, material to fill sandbags, equipment rental to fill sandbags, and placement of sandbags with machinery
 - Temporary flood dykes (water tubes, basket type dykes, etc.)
 - Channel clearing
 - Pumping
 - For communities and municipalities, use of their own equipment for flood prevention work at standard industry rates
 - For yard sites – owners can use their own equipment and cost-sharing will be based on appropriate equipment rental rates.

Program Contact

- Please refer to the map on the following page for the nearest Water Security Agency Regional Office.

Water Security Agency Offices



Head Office..... *
 Regional Offices..... *

Southeast Area

Weyburn Regional Office
 3rd Floor, City Centre Mall
 319 - 110 Souris Avenue
 WEYBURN SK S4H 2Z9
 Phone: 306.848.2345
 Fax: 306.848.2356

Southwest Area

Swift Current Regional Office
 Box 5000, E. I. Wood Building
 350 Cheadle Street West
 SWIFT CURRENT SK S9H 4G3
 Phone: 306.778.8257
 Fax: 306.778.8271

East Central Area

Yorkton Regional Office
 2nd Floor, Broadcast Building
 120 Smith Street East
 YORKTON SK S3N 3V3
 Phone: 306.786.1490
 Fax: 306.786.1495

Northeast Area

Nipawin Regional Office
 Box 2133
 201 - 1st Avenue East
 NIPAWIN SK S0E 1E0
 Phone: 306.862.1750
 Fax: 306.862.1771

Northwest Area

North Battleford Regional Office
 402 Royal Bank Tower
 1101 - 101st Street
 NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 0Z5
 Phone: 306.446.7450
 Fax: 306.446.7461

Head Office

Water Security Agency
 111 Fairford Street East
 MOOSE JAW SK S6H 7X9
 Phone: 306.694.3900
 Fax: 306.694.3944