

Established in January 2024 after the events of Storm Henk, Steventon Flood Group has continued to support the village throughout 2025. Our main focus is on building community resilience, reducing the impact of local flooding, and helping everyone understand more about the groundwater issues that affect different parts of the village.

You can find information regarding protecting your property and getting support if your property has been affected by flooding here: <https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/>

Everyone has a role to play in keeping Steventon prepared, and as we head into what's likely to be another wet winter, here are some simple ways you can get involved:

01 SIGN UP FOR STEVENTON FLOOD ALERTS

As you may know, we have invested in our own Flood Alert system in the village, which has consistently alerted residents & businesses more rapidly than the Environment Agency's systems in a likely flood incident. This gives more time to get protective measures in place. Sign up here to receive SMS alerts or a phone call if your property is prone to impact from a flood.

Scan here

to sign up to local flood alerts online.



If you cannot access via smart phone: email steventoncfg@gmail.com with your name, postcode & phone number and the team will register you.

02 JOIN OUR WINTER DITCHING EVENT - 7TH DEC

Each year we come together to continue the great work of this community in keeping our waterways and water run-off spaces clear of blockages. Join us on **Sunday 7th Dec at 10am. Meet at the container in the Village Hall Care Park**, and play your part in keeping our village safe from flooding. Protective clothing will be provided.

03 BE THE EYES AND EARS ON THE GROUND - OCC WILL TRAIN AND EQUIP FLOOD WARDENS

For the last 12 months we have been further empowered to resolve potential and real flood risks in the community by having a Superuser for FixMySteet.com. The main benefit being that we can report incidents of flooding, blocked drains and waterways (even potholes) via this site and get them reviewed and in most cases fixed within 24 hours. This is a huge improvement since before the village-wide incident in Jan 2024. We now have 2 Wardens in the Village (Sally Povolotsky and our former Reverend Phil Sutton). Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) will provide training and hi-vis for anyone keen to support. Please contact the Flood Group if you would like to volunteer.

04 WE ALL NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO PREVENT FLOODING - THINK BEFORE YOU ACT

We are a small community with a high risk of flooding. The support we receive from OCC to protect ourselves and our property from the impact of floods is limited, so it's up to each of us to play our part. Whilst it is each of our responsibility to protect our property, we cannot move the problem to somewhere else in the community. Please THINK before removing waste or putting flood protection measures in place. Ensure that water does not flow into a neighbours property or garden waste slips into local watercourses. Pull out and keep the handy guide on the next page.

Thank you for your efforts to keep Steventon safe during the wet season. .



HELPING TO REDUCE FLOOD RISK

Many things can affect the risk of flooding, but individuals and community groups can be aware of certain factors to help manage and reduce flood risk in their area.



AUTUMN LEAVES

Clear autumn leaves from household gutters and drains. Check local highway gullies and remove surface leaves where possible. Report internal blockages through to the highways department.



WATERCOURSE BLOCKAGES

Obstructions that may block or alter the flow of water should be reported. This includes fallen trees, build up of sediment after heavy rainfall, collapsed banks, and non-consented alterations to watercourses such as bridges or garden features like decking.



FLY-TIPPING

Check local watercourses for fly-tipping or other obstructions and report any incidents to the appropriate Risk Management Authority or landowner.



GARDEN WASTE

Dispose of grass cuttings, hedge clippings, leaves, branches, weeds and dead plants in your garden green waste bin or by composting. This prevents them from entering drains and watercourses which could cause blockages.



Image: Northumbrian Water

THE 3 P'S

Wet wipes (even 'flushable' wipes), cotton buds, nappies and sanitary products should not be flushed down the toilet. The only items that can be flushed are toilet paper, pee and poo (The 3 p's).



Image: Scottish Water

FATS, OILS & GREASE

After meals ensure that fats, oils, grease, food waste and scraps are disposed in the bin or compost and not down the kitchen sink. Use sink strainers and fat traps to help collect food scraps and fats.

USEFUL ***NUMBERS***

01223 849731 - OCC Out of Hours Highways

0800 316 9800 - Thames Water

0345 988 1188 - UK Gov Floodline

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF FLOODING

Emergency actions for the whole community, you can find more at:
<https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/emergency/help/>

- 1** Before flood water enters your home, close and lock downstairs windows and doors. Keep the keys safely to hand and move upstairs.
- 2** Continue to listen to situation updates from your local radio station and via Floodline on 0345 988 1188
- 3** Stay in your property if safe to do so or until emergency services tell you otherwise or the floodwater has gone
- 4** Do not drive or walk through floodwater. If it is necessary to walk through shallow water take care for hidden holes, obstacles or other hazards
- 5** If you come into contact with floodwater, wash any exposed body parts with bottled or cool boiled water before handling food or looking after wounds.