



MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

Flooding - Policy for Sandbags

1. Neither the Town Council nor Wiltshire Council has a duty to provide sandbags nor other temporary flood defences to residential and business properties although we will try to help subject to supply and demand. It should be noted it is the property owner's responsibility to protect their property from flooding.
2. If you know your property is at risk of flooding, it is strongly recommended that you make your own arrangements for sandbags or other defences as part of a pre-emptive flood defence plan and sign up for the Environment Agencies Floodline warning system.
3. The limited supply of sandbags the Town Council stores will be distributed on a 'needs' basis to properties at imminent risk of flooding. We will not supply sandbags to defend gardens, sheds, outbuildings or other such structures. We do not accept responsibility for the placing of flood defences although we will do our best to help property owners although manpower is prioritised to the elderly and disabled.
4. We will not supply sandbags or other temporary defences in advance based on forecasts.
5. Once issued, sandbags become the property of the property owner and it is their responsibility to dispose of them sensibly. (Wiltshire Council can provide details of disposal sites.)
6. The Town Council only has limited supplies of sandbags which we would prioritise to the elderly, disabled, and those with young families before offering to other householders and businesses.
7. Whilst we appreciate flooding events are stressful and traumatic the Town Council will stop the distribution of sandbags if their volunteers are verbally or physically threatened.
8. The Town Council sometimes holds limited supplies of gel sacs which can be purchased. Contact the Town Council offices for availability and more information on 01672 512487. Local Builders Merchants will usually have stocks of sandbags and plastic sheeting.

Useful Links:

- Helpful advice www.floodforum.org.uk
- Supplier information www.blupages.org.uk
- Floodline signup www.environment-agency.gov.uk
- Wiltshire Council
www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/civilemergencies/floodinganddrainage.htm