

Sewage contains bacteria, viruses, and other organisms that can cause illness unless you take proper precautions. Cleanup should begin as soon as the sewage and/or floodwaters have receded or been removed. The longer that sewage is allowed to remain in your home, the greater the potential for sickness and irreparable damage to your home.

SAFETY FIRST

Before clean up, decide what jobs and repairs that you can do or you may prefer the services of a professional.

BE CAREFUL

- Assume anything touched by sewage is contaminated.
- Wash hands frequently.
- Disinfect everything sewage has touched.
- Wear gloves or do not assist in the clean-up process, especially if you have cuts or open sores.
- Wear leakproof rubber boots that will keep your feet safe and dry.

BE AWARE of potential damage to utilities (gas and electric) from contaminated water. If you are not comfortable working on your utilities or appliances, call a professional.

Electrocution is a major killer in floods.

SAFETY CHECKLIST

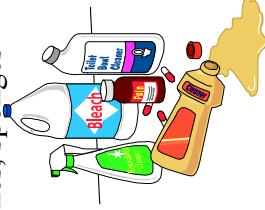
- Wait for the water/sewage to go down, or pump out flooded areas.
- Report downed power lines.
- Report gas leaks.
- Check for structural damage.
- Turn off electricity.
- Turn off gas or fuel.

CLEAN IT UP

STEP 1: Gather the necessary cleaning supplies.

Cleaning Supplies checklist

- Brooms, mops, brushes, sponges
- Buckets, hose
- Rubber gloves
- Rags
- Cleaning products
- Disinfectants
- Trash bags



STEP 2: Sort damaged contents to be repaired or discarded.

Items soaked by sewage... Throw them out???

Usually	Always
➤ Foam Rubber	➤ Cosmetics
➤ Large carpets	➤ Medicines and medical supplies
➤ Books and paper products	➤ Stuffed animals
➤ Food	➤ Toys
	➤ Mattresses and pillows and chairs
	➤ Upholstered couches
	➤ Carpet padding
	➤ Cardboard

STEP 3: Clean up one room at a time.

A 2-bucket approach is most efficient. Use one bucket for the cleaning solution and the other for the rinse water. After using the cleaning solution, rinse your mop, sponge, or cleaning cloth in the rinse bucket. Wring it dry. Re-wet your mop in the cleaning solution. Using 2 buckets keeps most of the dirty rinse water out of your cleaning solution. Replace the rinse water frequently.

After cleaning a room or item, go over it again with a disinfectant to kill the germs and smell left by the sewage and/or floodwaters. You may also need to get rid of mildew.

In case of heavy contamination you should spray all surfaces with disinfectant. Physically remove organic matter (raw sewage and silt) by any safe means available. Clean and disinfect surfaces according to the 2-bucket approach as described above.

RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS TO CLEAN TO DISINFECT

1st Choice:
Non-sudsing household cleaners.

10% solution of liquid chlorine bleach (1 3 oz in 1 gallon of water).

2nd Choice:
Laundry Soap or detergent.

Household disinfectant sanitizer such as quaternary, phenolic or pine oil disinfectants (check labels)

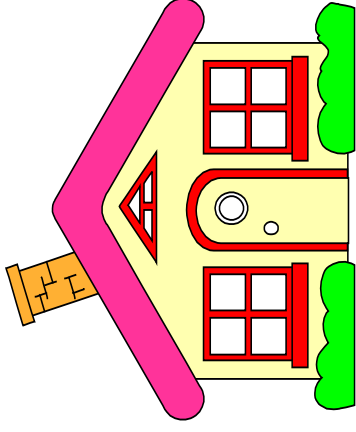
***Do not use Chlorine Bleach on non-colorfast materials.**



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DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

**SEWAGE BACK-UP
HOME
CARE GUIDE**



Your home and its contents may look beyond hope, but many of your belongings can probably be restored. If you do things right your flooded home can be cleaned up, dried out, rebuilt and reoccupied sooner than you think.

**SAFETY FIRST
CLEAN IT UP
STAY HEALTHY**

- All food exposed to sewage and floodwaters should be discarded except food that is sealed in metal cans. Remove labels from cans, wash in detergent, rinse, then place in a chlorine solution of 1 teaspoon of liquid laundry bleach for each 2 gallons of water, then air dry. Re-label with a permanent marker.
- Thoroughly launder all exposed clothing.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

A list of companies that provide special clean up services is available from the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department, or can be found in the yellow pages of your telephone book listed under "Carpet, Rug, and Upholstery Cleaning."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Lexington-Fayette County Health Dept.**
Division of Environmental Health
(606) 231-9791
- Lexington-Fayette Urban Co. Govt.**
Division of Sanitary Sewers
(606) 258-3000
- American Red Cross**
(606) 253-1331
(606) 233-3433

This pamphlet is provided by the
Lexington-Fayette County Health Department

Do not mix bleach with other household chemical products especially ammonia or toilet bowl cleaner, the chemical reaction can create a poisonous gas.

- STEP 4:** Dry out your home and remove mildew by lowering the humidity.
- a. Open up your house - open outside doors and windows.
 - b. Open up closet doors and cabinet doors.
 - c. Circulate the air with fans.
 - d. Run a dehumidifier.

STAY HEALTHY

Small children, pregnant women and people with health problems should avoid flooded and sewage-contaminated areas until clean-up is complete. Small children tend to put things in their mouths. Pregnant women and people with health problems need to use caution to avoid injury and exposure to disease.

- STAY HEALTHY CHECKLIST**
- Confirm that water is clean and safe to drink.
 - Disinfect dishes and utensils and everything else that sewage and floodwaters have touched.