

Have you been affected by groundwater flooding?

We have developed a number of new flood warning areas for communities at risk from groundwater flooding. These complement our existing flood alert areas. We are working with communities to promote these warning areas and recruit people to sign up for our Flood Warnings Direct service.

How can I sign up to receive these flood warnings?

To find out if you are at risk and to register to receive these Flood Alerts and Flood Warnings for groundwater, call Floodline on 0345 988 118 (24 hour service) or go online at www.gov.uk/environment-agency. For more information about the flood warning areas contact the Wessex Flood Resilience team at floodwessex@environment-agency.gov.uk

How we have produced the flood warning areas

For several years we have been able to issue groundwater flood alerts across the area. The three alert areas are the **West of Dorset**, **Cranborne Chase** and **Salisbury Plain**. The flood alert is an early warning about the potential for flooding to occur.

Following the groundwater flooding in 2013 / 2014, we have analysed our records and have produced 22 community based flood warning areas. These cover smaller areas than the flood alerts. A flood warning is used to warn people that flooding of properties is expected.

Where the groundwater flood warning areas are

The Bourne Valley

- The Collingbournes including Aughton, Collingbourne Kingston and Collingbourne Ducis
- The Bourne Valley, north of the A303, including Tidworth and Shipton Bellinger
- The Winterbornes and Salisbury including Cholderton, Newton Tony, Allington, Idmiston, Porton, Winterborne Gunner, Winterborne Earls and Laverstock

River Till and Chitterne

- The Till Valley including Tilshead, Orcheston, Shrewton, Winterborne Stoke, Berwick St James and Stapleford
- The Chitterne Stream including Chitterne, Codford St Peter and Codford St Mary

The Ebble

- The Ebble Valley including Berwick St John, Ebbesbourne Wake, Bowerchalke, Broad Chalke, Stoke Farthing, Bishopstone, Stratford Toney, Coombe Bissett, Homington, Odstock and Nunton
- Cranborne Chase in West Hampshire including Martin, Damerham, Sandleheath, Rockbourne, Whitsbury, Fordingbridge and Breamore

Vale of Allen

- The Allen Valley including Sixpenny Handley, Wimborne St Giles, Witchampton and parts of Wimborne
- The Crane Valley including Pentridge, Cranborne and Edmondsham
- The Crichels including Chettle, Long Crichel and Moor Crichel
- The Gussage including Tollard Royal, Farnham, Minchington, Cashmoor, Gussage St Michael and Gussage All Saints
- The Pimperne Brook at Pimperne
- The Tarrants including Stubhampton, Tarrant Gunville, Hinton, Monkton, Rawston, Rushton, Keyneston and Crawford
- The Iwerne including Sutton Waldron, Iwerne Minster, Iwerne Courtney, Shroton and Stourpaine

North Winterborne

- The North Winterborne, south of the A354 including Winterborne Whitechurch, Kingston, Zelston, Newton and Peveril
- The North Winterborne, north of the A354 including Turnworth and Winterborne Stickland, Houghton, Clenston, Whatcombe and Whitechurch

Frome and Piddle

- The Piddle Valley including Alton Pancras, Piddletrenthide, White Lackington, Piddlehinton, Puddletown and Athelhampton
- The Bere Stream including Hilton, Milton Abbas and Milborne St Andrew
- The Cerne Valley including Minterne Magna, Minton Parva, Cerne Abbas, Nether Cerne, Godmanstone, Forston and Charminster
- The Devil's Brook including Ansty, Cheselbourne and Dewlish
- The Hooke including Toller Whelme, Hooke and Toller Porcorum
- The Sydling Valley including Up Sydling and Sydling Nicholas

South Winterborne Valley (this warning area has been in place since July 2012)

- The South Winterborne including Kingston Russell, Winterborne Abbas, Steepleton, Martinstown, Winterborne Monkton, Winterborne Herrington, Winterborne Came, West Stafford

How can I make preparations to cope with groundwater flooding?

- Think and prepare now for what you'll do if flooding occurs where you live, don't wait until flooding happens. The primary responsibility for protecting a property from flooding lies with the householder.
- Consider installing flood protection products such as a pump or improving surface water drainage around your property.
- If you have a pump ensure it is serviced and working effectively.
- Have a personal flood plan which list key information, contacts and actions to help you cope with flooding.
- Move valuables from basements and cellars.
- Keep drains and gullies around your property free of debris.
- Visit the Environment Agency website for local water levels and flooding information www.gov.uk/environment-agency
- If you own part of the river bank you should keep the banks and bed of the river clear of debris.