



As a local leader, your top priority after a disaster is safety. But it can be tough to know where to start and what to prioritize. That's why the American Flood Coalition put together this checklist, focused on seven immediate needs for a community during response and recovery.

### 1. Safety and Security

- Threats to life and safety are no longer a concern for all responders and impacted communities.
- Government essential functions, including executive leadership, are operational.
- Sufficient search and rescue assets are on-scene to assist all survivors.
- Sufficient fire resources are available to put out or suppress fires.

### 2. Food, Water, Shelter

- All survivors — along with pets and service animals — have access to food, water, and sanitation.
- Sheltering — including cell reception, capacity, accessibility, and wrap-around services — can support the displaced population.
- Sufficient resources are in place to sustain local agriculture.

### 3. Health and Medical

- All survivors — along with pets, and service animals — have access to required medical care.
- Emergency medical systems can sufficiently move patients.
- Public health services are accessible to all survivors.
- Fatality management teams can meet demand.
- Medical care providers have adequate access to supplies.

### 4. Energy

- Generators can provide temporary emergency power at critical facilities necessary to stabilize other lifelines
- Fuel distribution is available for responders.
- Sufficient electricity and fuel distribution is available for survivors, including individuals depending on power for life-sustaining care.

### 5. Communications

- Survivors can access commercial communications infrastructure to contact or be contacted by emergency services.
- First responder communications (e.g., land mobile radio) are operational.
- Public safety answering points (e.g., 911 centers) are available to the public.
- Survivors have access to financial services.

### 6. Transportation

- Multimodal routes (air, rail, road, port) are clear of debris and accessible.

### 7. Hazardous Material

- All contaminated areas are identified and secured.