

FLOODS CAN HAPPEN ANYWHERE



**DON'T WORRY,
BE READY**

Take steps today
to help protect your
home and family



YOU CAN TAKE THESE STEPS TO HELP PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM FLOODING



Obtain **home insurance** with flood coverage.



Talk to your insurance provider about your risk and **additional steps** you can take to **protect your home**.

Protect your valuables by storing them in waterproof containers on shelving above potential water levels or moving them to upper floors.

Find your floor drain and make sure nothing is covering it like boxes, furniture or carpet.

Install a sump pump, backup pump and power supply. Ensure all are in working order and test them regularly.

Install a backwater valve. Keep it in working order.

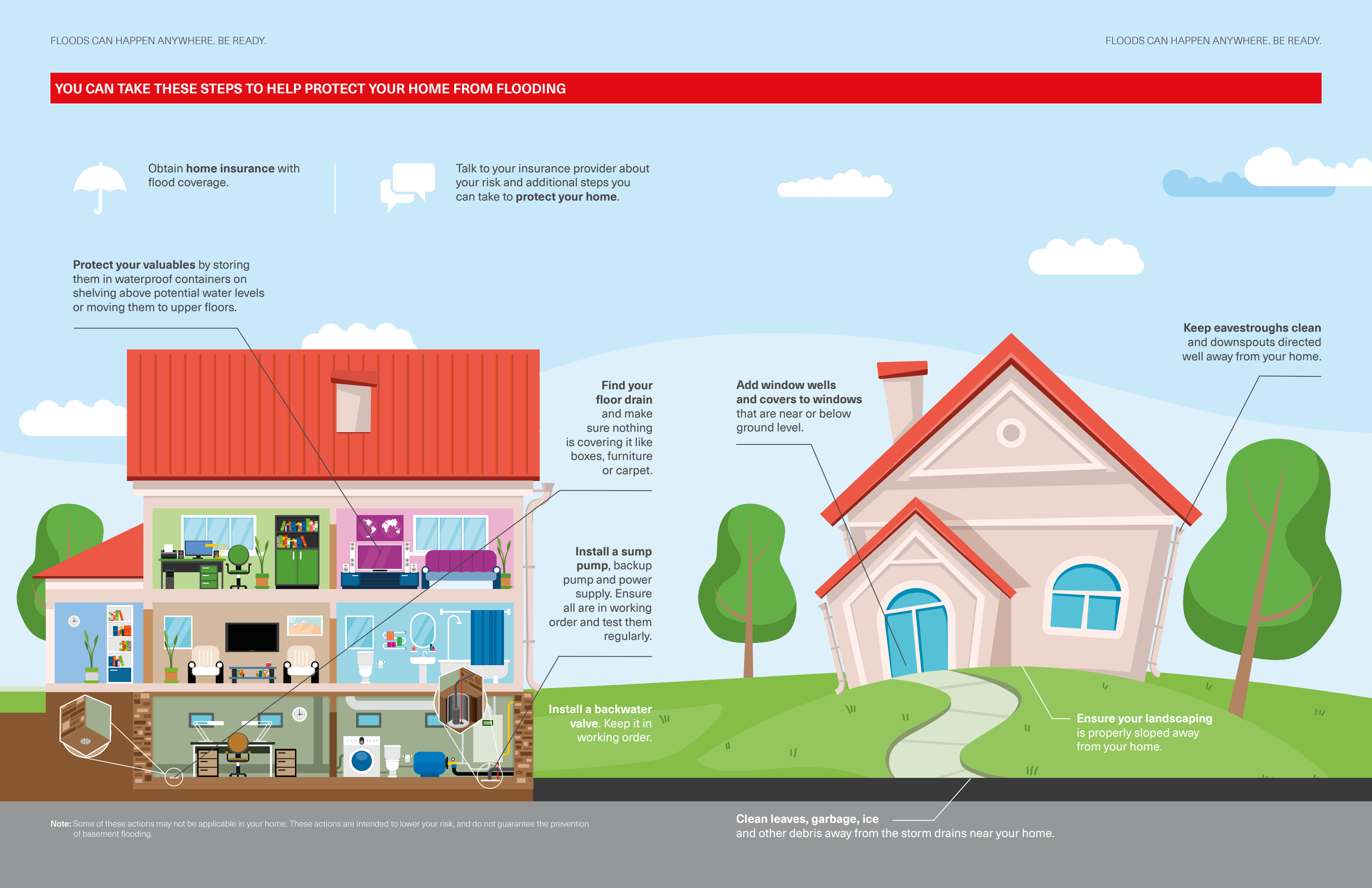
Add window wells and covers to windows that are near or below ground level.

Keep eavestroughs clean and downspouts directed well away from your home.

Ensure your landscaping is properly sloped away from your home.

Clean leaves, garbage, ice and other debris away from the storm drains near your home.

Note: Some of these actions may not be applicable in your home. These actions are intended to lower your risk, and do not guarantee the prevention of basement flooding.



YOU CAN BE READY TO HELP PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY FROM FLOODING.

BEFORE

- **Know the risks** where you live, work and play. Monitor local weather and alerts. Talk to your municipality and insurer about your risks and what you can do.
 - **Have an emergency plan** and practice it with your family.
 - **Know what you would do during a flood – talk about it with your family** and neighbours.
 - **Know and practice** evacuation routes.
 - **Have an emergency kit.**
 - Download the **Red Cross Be Ready app** for alerts and information.
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DURING

- **Listen to local radio, watch your local news channels** for possible flood warnings and reports of flooding in progress. Follow safety instructions.
 - **Be prepared to evacuate** at a moment's notice.
 - When a flood or flash flood warning is issued for your area, **head for higher ground** and stay there.
 - **Turn around – don't drown!** Avoid walking and driving through flood water. It could be deeper than you think. Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood danger.
 - **Keep children and pets away from flood water.**
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AFTER

- **Continue to take precautions and listen to and follow directions from local authorities.**
- **Notify your insurance company.** Visit [redcross.ca/ready](https://www.redcross.ca/ready) for further tips.
- **When returning to your home,** do so only when you are advised it is safe to do so.
- **Do not use food or water that may be contaminated.** When in doubt, throw it out!
- Consult the **Canadian Red Cross Guide To Flood Recovery** at [redcross.ca/ready](https://www.redcross.ca/ready) for step-by-step instructions, including:
 - **When cleaning your home, maintain good hygiene** by minimizing contact with flood water or anything that may have come in contact with it. **Wear protective clothing**, including rubber/sturdy boots, safety glasses, hard hat, rubber gloves and a dust mask.
 - **Do not use appliances, heating, pressure or sewage systems** until electrical components are dry and have been inspected by a qualified electrician.
 - **Check with local authorities or community leaders** on how to properly dispose of damaged and contaminated items from your home.
 - For further emergency planning tips and advice, visit [redcross.ca/ready](https://www.redcross.ca/ready) and download the **Red Cross Be Ready app**.