

[The sun is shining and the snowpack is melting](#)



Wow, that was a wet winter. Now that spring is here, snowpack is melting and hurricane season is right around the corner.

Whether you're a renter or a property owner, take a moment to consider adding flood insurance to your financial safety net. Bottom line: basic home and renters policies don't cover flood repairs, but you can [fill that protection gap](#). Not sure if you have flood risk? [Take this quiz](#).

Home insurance prices are at an all-time high in many parts of the US today, but protecting your assets is still so important. If you're not in a high flood risk area, adding that protection won't be a budget buster. If you have an NFIP policy but are considering dropping it, [make an informed decision](#) before you do.

In addition to being a member of the Coalition for Sustainable Flood Insurance, and providing consumer guidance on an ongoing basis, UP is partnering with the Minnesota and Wisconsin Departments of Insurance and [Ready North Initiative](#) to help residents be resilient to flooding. The fact is...all states have some [flood risk](#).

Flood insurance details:

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- You can add flood coverage through a private flood insurer or the National Flood Insurance Program (“NFIP”).
- There will be a waiting period from the date you buy it to the date it kicks in. (30 days for an NFIP policy).
- Flood insurance can be very affordable, depending on your location.
- Use this link to learn about your area’s [flood risk](#), contact an insurance agent or call the NFIP at 877-336-2627.
- If you have a mortgage and your home is in a “Special Hazard Flood Zone” your lender will require flood insurance.
- An NFIP policy provides \$250,000 max to repair flood damage to your home.
- An NFIP policy provides \$100,000 max for belongings but not automatically. You have to ask and pay for this additional coverage.
- An NFIP policy will NOT cover temporary rent if your home is uninhabitable after a flood. Most private flood policies cover that expense.

Contact your insurance agent or company and ask:

- How much will it cost to insure my home and belongings for flood damage?
- Can you help me compare the cost, coverages and options in an NFIP versus adding coverage to my existing policy through a “flood endorsement” or private flood insurer?
- Would a flood rider or endorsement give me more than \$250,000 in coverage?
- Will it cover temporary rent?