

## **Flooding**

### **Return to your home**

**Friday, May 12th, 2017** – Our teams, along with Montreal's Fire Department (SIM), Civil Security, the Canadian Armed Forces, Rapid Relief Team and many volunteers, are working hard to facilitate your return to your home. In the meantime, here is a few safety tips to follow.

Flood victims who return to their home expose themselves to a number of risks (ex: electrocution, electric shock, poor water quality if water comes from an individual (Artesian) well.). Before re-connecting electricity or gas equipment, have a certified professional inspect all installations.

#### **CLEANING**

Cleaning operations have started. Collection of sand bags will start as soon as the situation will allow it.

Waste containers will be available for debris (except sand and pallets) at the following places no later than Monday, May 15th :

- Borough's Public Work containers accessible through 571 Cherrier, Monday to Friday from 7am to 4pm
- A container will be available in the parking of 571 Cherrier
- A container will be available at the intersection of Monique and Paquin streets
- A container will be available at the intersection of Cherrier and Montée Wilson (for the mobile homes park)

#### **TAP WATER**

Tap water in flood zones remains of excellent quality if it comes from a municipal water system. If the water comes from an individual (Artesian) well, it is not drinkable. In this case, water should be brought to a rolling boil for one full minute before drinking.

Wait at least 10 days after flood water recedes before disinfecting and analyzing water from the well.

#### **FLOOD WATERS**

The water that currently floods homes can contain microbes or chemicals products and can contaminate surfaces and objects and cause infections, skin irritation and gastroenteritis. Here are the guidelines to follow when you are in contact with this water.

***Continue on next page***

- Put on rubber gloves to handle soiled objects, and wear boots at all times to avoid contact with water and wet objects, as the risks of infection are great.
- Use a suitable face mask and safety glasses when cleaning, even if the surfaces are dry, they may still be contaminated.
- Wash your hands often, as there may be a risk of contamination.
- Avoid eating in flooded areas.
- Open doors and windows to ventilate the house and lower the humidity to less than 50%.
- Disinfect surfaces and objects that come in contact with flood waters, such as counters, floors, dishes and tools, with a mixture of water and bleach.
- Wash with ammonia-free soap and hot water surfaces and objects soiled by flood waters. Urgence Québec advises, among other things, to discard mattresses, cushions or fluff, food that may have been in contact with contaminated water, wooden cutting boards, bottle nipples, medicines and cosmetics, and finally pen the walls to dry them.

#### **PUMPS AND GENERATORS**

The use of gasoline or propane pumps or generators to liberate the flood water from your basement may present a danger of carbon monoxide poisoning. The SIM wishes to remind you of some safety precautions:

- Place these equipment outside the home.
- Make sure exhaust fumes are not directed towards the house and keep a minimum of 3 meters of openings (windows and doors).
- If you or anyone around you feel any discomfort (nausea, headache, dizziness) stop your pump and see a doctor immediately.

#### **RESOURCES**

Thermal blankets, clothes, food, toiletries and showers are available at the Community Center (490, montée de l'Église). For any need you may have or to get some rest, please contact **ibsg.aide@ville.montreal.qc.ca** or go directly to the Community Center.

We thank you for your collaboration. Follow updates :  
**[www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/ibsg](http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/ibsg)** and **[www.facebook.com/MTLibsg](https://www.facebook.com/MTLibsg)**

For any questions, please call 3-1-1.

If there is an emergency and your safety is at risk, please call 9-1-1.

We thank you for your collaboration.