



How to protect my home against heavy rainfall

With heavy rainfall on the rise due to climate change, it is essential to be properly prepared.

To help prevent these situations, we offer practical advice, such as installing check valves and recommendations on actions to avoid during heavy rainfall.

Be proactive and protect your home.

The City provides these guidelines for informational purposes, based on various recognized sources. It is the responsibility of residents to consult qualified professionals to ensure that the measures taken for their homes comply with applicable standards.

Sources:

Chapter III, Plumbing: Quebec Construction Code

By-law 2008-47: Montreal Metropolitan Community (CMM)

By-law BEAC-046: City of Beaconsfield

Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation: University of Waterloo

Optimize the protection of your home



Inspect your check valves annually to ensure they are working properly



Install a sump pump if your home does not have one and test it regularly. You can also install a backup sump pump and a battery



Check for leaks in the plumbing, appliances, and fixtures



Remove debris from the storm drain closest to the ditch or culvert



Clear the sump pump outlet in the ditch and remove any debris



Clean the gutters



Store valuables and hazardous materials in sealed containers and secure fuel tanks



Remove obstructions from the floor drain



Install and maintain flood alarms

Good habits to adopt

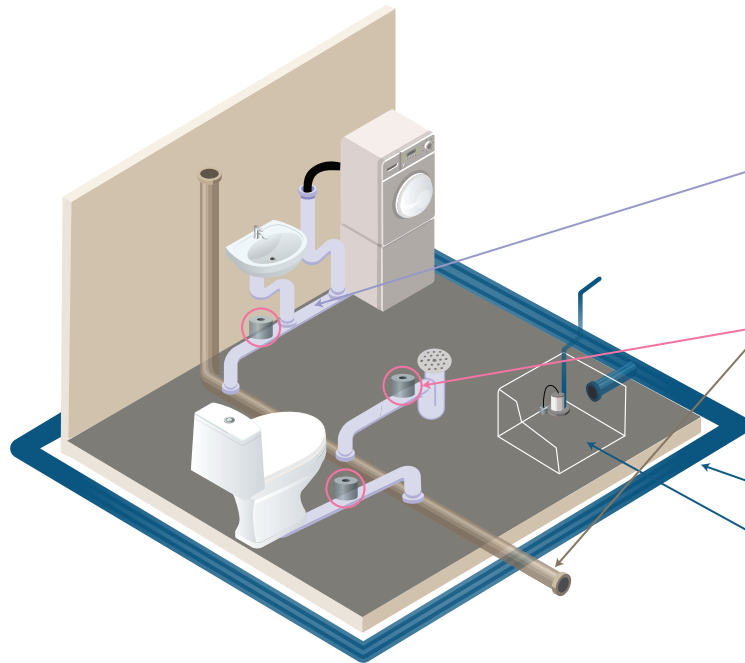
When it rains heavily, the check valve closes to prevent wastewater from flowing back up the drain.

However, this means that the water can no longer drain normally. Here is what not to do during such episodes:

- Do not flush the toilet
- Do not use the bath or shower
- Do not run the dishwasher or washing machine
- Reduce any use of water that could strain the home's drainage system



Six (6) key things to check with a professional



1 CHECK VALVES

- All secondary lines for appliances below street level must be protected with a check valve.
- The sewer main can be fitted with a full port check valve (normally open) only if your house meets the standards of the Quebec Construction Code.
- Valves and their accessories must be in good condition, properly installed, accessible and thoroughly cleaned.

2 FRENCH DRAINS

- French drains must not be connected directly to the main sewer line.
- The water from the French drains must be directed into a covered holding pit and drained by a sump pump into the ditch.

3 FOUNDATIONS

- Foundations must be watertight.
- Foundations must be free of cracks.

4 GUTTERS

- Water from gutters must not be directed into the City's sanitary or storm sewers, nor into the French drain.
- Water from gutters must be directed to the ground at least 1.5 m from the foundation, toward vegetation.

5 WINDOW WELLS

- For windows located below ground level, a window well acts as an effective barrier to keep out surface water. A bed of stones will drain any water at the foot of the window.
- The window well must not be directly connected to the French drain and/or the sewer main.

6 LOT

- The layout of your property should include slopes that allow water to drain naturally away from the foundations.
- Limit the amount of sealed surfaces on your lot by covering paved areas with vegetation, which absorbs more water.
- Discharging your surface water onto neighbouring properties is prohibited.

