Preventing Plumbing Leaks

Leaking or blockage of any pipes or fixtures in your home can result in water damage to the structure and pooling of water in lower parts of your home.

Follow these simple prevention tips:

- Good plumbing practices and maintenance and prompt repair of leaks can reduce the risk of flooding from this source.
- Maintain your sump pump in good repair at all times and consider that during a power failure you'll need back-up power to keep your sump pump running.
- Keep contact information for a qualified, licensed plumber in a convenient location in case of plumbing problems.
- Keep oils, greases and other trash and debris out of drains and toilets.
- When you are away from home for extended periods, shut off your water at the main shut-off valve to reduce the risk of water damage.

What if Sewage Leaks Into My Basement?

If sewage is backing up from your basement floor drain, there may be a blockage or surcharge under your home, in the line connecting your home to the sanitary system underneath the roadway or the street sanitary pipe itself may be full. If sewage or water is entering the basement of your home, call the Region of Peel at 905-791-7800.

Dealing with Mould

All surfaces impacted by floodwater will grow mould. Untreated mould growth in a home is a serious health hazard to your family.

Affected surfaces should be cleaned with detergent, disinfected and rinsed before drying to minimize the potential for mould growth. The best results will be achieved if water is removed and clean-up and disinfection is undertaken within 48 hours. Maintain adequate ventilation during cleaning and drying phases of the restoration. High-volume fans or other ventilation equipment can be obtained or rented to speed drying.

<u>Notes:</u>

- Your insurance policy may require that your home be professionally cleaned to be covered. Contact your insurance provider for details.
- Always wear an N-95 mask if mould is present in the work area.