

Basement Flooding Emergency: Follow These Simple Steps

by Gretchen Vuvalgee

Having a basement in the house is always great. It provides the family with more space and thereby more room to hang out. A basement can be used for several purposes. It can be converted to a storage room, a laundry room or a hang out room for your family and friends. Some people also use it as bedroom. A basement provides limitless options. But then it also presents a big problem of basement flooding.

Basement flooding occurs due to the water seeping into the ground and then unto the basement. It can damage the entire furniture and also other valuable things present in the basement. Therefore rather than waiting and watch your properties get damaged and you facing a basement flooding emergency, it is better to take proactive measures like basement waterproofing and sump pumps and prevent it from happening.

If you didn't have the luck and are faced with basement flooding emergency, following few steps would ensure that minimum damage occurs to your property. Be sure to wait for the water level outside the walls to go down before draining water inside the basement. This is to ensure that the walls don't get pushed in. Using a sump pump in case of basement flooding emergency to remove excess water is the best option to minimize the loss. But be sure to wait until the water level outside is lower then inside before starting with the pumping. This is to be continued until the two water levels become equal.

Once all the water has been drained out of the basement, start with the cleaning process to allow the walls and floor to dry. The concrete walls should be properly rinsed using a high pressure hose in order to remove all the silt and dirt from them. Also use the household detergent and brittle brush to remove stain from them. Use only clean water for all the cleaning purpose during basement flooding emergency. Mold growth and wood decay is the most basic problem that people face during basement flooding emergency. Use of a respirator is highly recommended until the complete drying process is over to prevent any infection due to the growth of molds. Hence be sure to dry the basement as quickly as possible. Using a dehumidifier to help in the drying process is always helpful.

Electrical appliances pose a major problem while handling any basement flooding emergency. People often neglect them and turn on wet appliances resulting in severe shock or in some cases fire. Be sure to get all your electric appliances thoroughly checked before using them again. Basement flooding often results in a pungent odor in your house and the neighborhood. If ventilation doesn't work for you, use a beach solution to mop the floor and the walls and let them properly dry. A lump of dry charcoal also helps to absorb the odor.

Most people faced with a basement flooding emergency begin to panic and start looking for professional help. Though a professionals advice always help, following the above steps would ensure that minimal loss is caused to your property and health.

Gretchen Vuvalgee distributes information on water and sewer damage issues for Chicago basement flooding emergency service and Chicago basement flooding emergency service.

Article Source: <http://www.articlesnatch.com>