



Flood Damage is not Covered By Homeowners' Policies



Floridians need to be aware that flood damage is not covered by their homeowners' policies.

In Florida nearly one-third of all homes have flood insurance, but that still leaves two-thirds of all Florida families without this coverage.

Buying flood insurance is easy, affordable, and provides an extra layer of security in the event of a catastrophic occurrence. In most circumstances, there is a standard 30-day waiting period before flood coverage takes effect.



Florida consumers can purchase flood insurance for up to \$250,000 for property damage, and \$100,000 for personal contents. While a building and contents policy for the maximum level of coverage in a high flood risk area not on the water may be over \$2,000, many low to moderate risk areas with the same coverage would cost less than \$325.

Even people outside of flood hazard areas should consider obtaining coverage. A Rand Corporation study showed one-third of all floods occurred outside standard flood hazard areas; however, only one percent of people outside the flood plains buy flood insurance.

Information about the National Flood Insurance Program can be found at the Federal Emergency Management Agency's website at: <http://www.floodsmart.gov> or <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/flood/info.shtm>.