

Sandbag Policy

Adopted March 11, 2025

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the process by which municipal staff will respond to flooding events in the Township of Asphodel-Norwood.

Definitions

Emergency Response

An emergency response is initiated when there is no prior warning of potential flooding from any government agency (e.g., Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA), Emergency Management Ontario, Public Health). This includes unexpected events such as flash storms, dam collapses, or other unforeseen phenomena, where property owners have no prior notice to prepare.

Non-Emergency Response

A non-emergency response is triggered when government agencies provide prior warnings of potential flooding, and residents fail to take action to prepare for the anticipated flooding event.

Policy

Established Procedure

1.1 Responsibilities of the Township of Asphodel-Norwood:

- Develop, maintain, and share information regarding flooding risks with residents and business owners within the Township.
- The Fire & Rescue Department will assist with emergency response situations, when appropriate.
- The Public Works Department will provide sand and sandbags in both emergency and non-emergency response situations, upon request by affected residents.
- The Head of Council, in consultation with the Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG), may declare a “State of Emergency” as necessary.

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1.2 Responsibilities of Residents, Property Owners, and Business Owners:

- Take necessary actions to mitigate flooding on private property.
- Request and obtain sandbags, along with instructions on how to properly build a sandbag barrier and dispose of used sandbags.

Costs

In non-emergency situations, the Township will charge the following fees for the provision of sandbags and associated services:

- **Operator Fees**
 - \$50.00 per hour, per operator
- **Dump Truck**
 - \$200.00 per hour, includes vehicle and driver
- **½ Ton Truck**
 - \$100.00 per hour, includes vehicle and driver

Scope

This policy governs the responsibilities of municipal departments during flooding events but does not apply to a declared emergency, which would be managed according to the Township's Emergency Plan.

Resources

- Township of Asphodel-Norwood
www.antownship.ca/emergency-preparedness
- Environment Canada
<https://weather.gc.ca>
- Weather Network
www.theweathernetwork.com
- Emergency Management Ontario (EMO)
www.ontario.ca/page/emergency-management
- Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA)
www.otonabeeconservation.com