

## **Does Homeowners Insurance Cover Flooding?**

Floods are the #1 natural disasters in the United States and account for 90% of all natural disasters. Many homeowners learn the hard way that their homeowners' insurance doesn't cover property damage caused by floods. Luckily, getting the right flood insurance doesn't need to be an overwhelming experience.

Everyone lives in a flood zone. Flooding happens every day in all regions of the country. Floods can be caused by snow melt, hurricanes, tropical storms, flash floods, severe storms and levee failures. In high-risk areas, there is at least a 1 in 4 chance of flooding during a 30-year mortgage. All homeowners in these areas with mortgages from federally regulated or insured lenders are required to buy flood insurance. In moderate-to-low risk areas, the risk of being flooded is reduced but not completely removed. These areas submit over 20% of



National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) claims and receive one-third of disaster assistance for flooding. Flood insurance isn't federally required in moderate-to-low areas, but it is recommended for all property owners and renters.

Homeowners insurance covers many hazards. Flooding isn't one of them. Only flood insurance financially covers your clients' home and personal property from floods. Flood insurance coverage is federally regulated and provided through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which is administered through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Flood insurance can only be purchased through an insurance agent and rates are set nationally and do not differ from company to company or agent to agent.

Flooding can turn the dream of home ownership into a nightmare and can be the difference between recovery and ruin for property owners who are affected by a flood. Don't take a chance! Be flood smart -- because you never know when a flood will strike. Contact Champion Realty Insurance today at 410.975.3044 for more information about flood insurance.