

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Historical Materials from University of Nebraska-
Lincoln Extension

Extension

April 2014

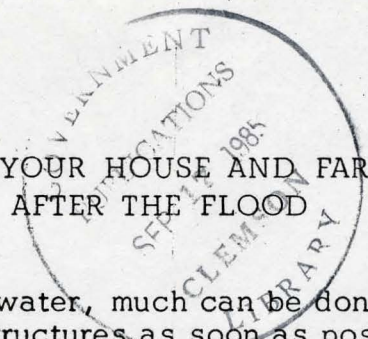
CC12 Emergency Flood Information... Repairing Your House and Farm Buildings After the Flood.

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/extensionhist>

"CC12 Emergency Flood Information... Repairing Your House and Farm Buildings After the Flood." (2014). *Historical Materials from University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension*. 2991.

<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/extensionhist/2991>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Extension at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Historical Materials from University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

FLOOD INFORMATION**REPAIRING YOUR HOUSE AND FARM
BUILDINGS AFTER THE FLOOD**

In spite of heavy damage to buildings caused by high water, much can be done to recover their usefulness. To make the best of it, repair structures as soon as possible.

Here are a few key points:

1. Wash out the mud, dirt, and debris as soon as you can. Clean your walls and floors before they dry out. Use a hose and mop or wash rags. Start from the top or upper limit of the flooding, and work downward to the floor or basement.
2. Dry out the building. Open doors and windows for good ventilation. If you can, use electric fans to improve circulation. Drying may take considerable time -- several days, or even weeks if the weather is damp. Wet wood will decay: dry as soon as possible to reduce decay and mold.
3. Insulated frame walls may require special drying. Strips of siding or plaster can be removed from upper and lower portions of the walls to speed up drying of the studding and insulation.
4. Check foundations and footings. Start from the bottom when investigating structural features. See that underlying material is not washed out. Replace with gravel or crushed rock. Add concrete where necessary. Raise or brace up in position to make floors level.
5. See that walls are plumb. Check with a level or plumb-bob. Correct and brace walls to keep them vertical.
6. Repair and patch where necessary. You can do this on a temporary basis now. Final repairs can be done later, in dry weather, when more time is available.
 - a. Concrete floors are easily patched, using a rich mix of mortar having no coarse aggregate, 1 to 4 mix.
 - b. Wooden floors will dry out slowly. Don't build hot fires to rush drying. Try to prevent buckling and warping by driving more nails wherever flooring tends to lift or bulge. After fully drying, the surface can be planed level or sanded smooth. Then shellac, lacquer, or varnish can be applied for the finish.

The Cooperative Extension Service provides information and educational programs to all people without regard to race, color or national origin.

