

Community Flood Warden Volunteers – brief details

Flood Wardens are members of the local community - they can be individuals, representatives of the Parish Council or existing volunteers, for example, Community Resilience Volunteers already part of Community Emergency Plans, Highway Wardens or Police volunteers. Oxfordshire County Council Emergency Planning Team, Highways Team and Volunteer Coordination Team, in partnership with the Environment Agency, can support Flood Wardens in their role and provide the necessary training.

Flood Wardens should always try to work in pairs. It is useful to have a deputy Flood Warden in case someone is away when a flood incident occurs.

Flood Wardens can help local communities to understand their flood risk and that they all have a responsibility to look after themselves, their family and property before, during and after a flood.

Identifying Problems

Flood Wardens can monitor blocked drains and culverts, ditches in need of repair, tree branches or obstructions in rivers/watercourses, and anything else that may cause a flood risk and report them to the appropriate land, property owners or local authority.

Training/Agreement

Prior to any training, we will send a Volunteer Agreement form, which they need to sign and return. This agreement has general H&S and Policy details in it. We will then organise a training session which will provide information on how to log and record problems.

The Flood Wardens will need to be relatively confident in PC skills using their own device - phone/tablet/laptop or PC, although we will provide a crib sheet and example of the process in the training session. Also, the volunteer Flood Wardens needs to consider available time and ability to carry out regular check and reporting of defects.

Further Information

For further information on Community Flood Warden Volunteers please refer to the Flood Warden Handbook V1.02 document. Any general queries in the first instance contact the Lead Local Flood Authority Team on floodmanagement@oxfordshire.gov.uk