

## SANDBAG PLACEMENT SUGGESTIONS

Place sandbags, externally, at doors where water might enter your home. **Garage:** If water comes into your garage, sandbags should be directly against the access door into your home for support (Figure 1). Garages can withstand low flooding with less damage than the interior of your home. Objects stored in the garage at lower levels should be moved higher or placed inside the home, if flooding is a concern. **Exterior Doors:** If water enters your home through your front or back door, place sandbags, externally, directly against that door (Figure 1). Do not open the door until the water has dropped below the sandbags.

Sandbags will not block water from seeping through. If you expect to have water against the bags for quite a while, wrap the bags with plastic as follows: Place a plastic sheet (garbage bags or shower liners will work) on the ground against the door you're protecting. (The plastic should extend away from the door at least three feet if you are only using one row of sandbags.) Place the bags on top of the plastic, pressing them firmly against each other and the door frames. Lift the remaining plastic over the bags and tuck the plastic underneath the back of the bags. For higher stacks, use wider plastic. If more than one plastic sheet is used, use heavy wrapping or duct tape to seal the sheet ends together (Figure 2).

Sandbags are not dams. If you have water that normally runs across your property, the sandbags can be used to guide the water past your home but cannot be used to stop all water from coming onto your site. Even shallow flowing water can move vehicles. Place the sandbags only as needed to prevent water from entering your home.

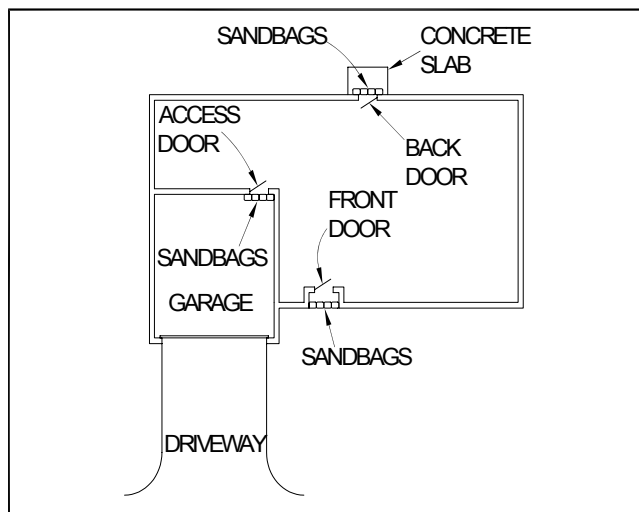


Figure 1

\*Note: In an emergency, you can make your own sandbags using plastic garbage bags and earth from your yard.

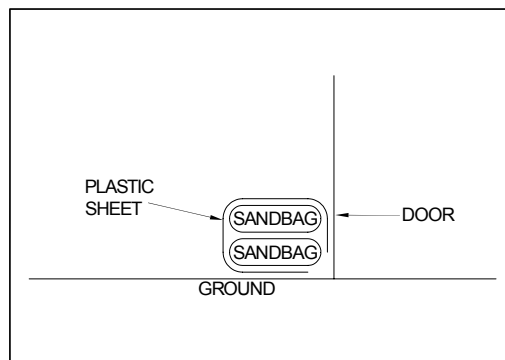


Figure 2