

Toilet Use During an Emergency



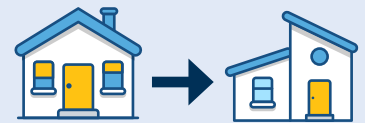
Heavy rain and severe flooding can cause damage to sewer systems and reduce access to working toilets. Learn how to safely use a toilet during an emergency.

If my toilet doesn't work, how do I go to the bathroom?

If your toilet won't flush, you don't have water to flush with or your sewage system isn't working, you'll need an alternative way to go to the bathroom.

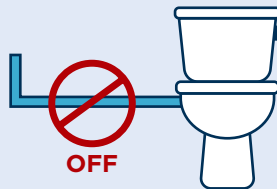
OPTION 1

Use someone else's working toilet (neighbor, friend, local business, etc.).



OPTION 2

1. Turn off the water valve and flush out any water still in the bowl. It should not refill with water.



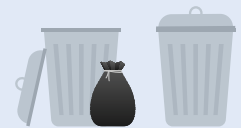
2. Line your toilet bowl with a plastic bag inside another kitchen garbage bag.



3. If available, put something inside the bag to absorb liquid and help limit odor (such as kitty litter, peat moss, lime, bleach or disinfectant).



4. Properly store bags away from kids and animals by placing used bags inside a garbage can.



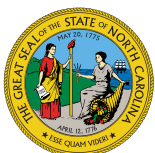
OPTION 3

Use a five-gallon bucket. You can add a toilet seat and set it up like option 2. Disinfect the bucket with bleach or discard after use.



Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water.
Use wet wipes and sanitizer if you do not have access to running water.

For more information, please visit [ncdhhs.gov/helene](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/helene)



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