

# Tenants' Rights for Those Affected by Flooding in the Leominster Area

## Repairs: Are you a tenant whose apartment needs repairs due to the flooding in the Leominster area?

Your landlord must provide you with safe and habitable housing under the State Sanitary Code. If your landlord fails to make repairs, you have several options to get repairs made:

- Complain to your landlord and request repairs in writing. Keep a copy of all emails, texts or letters for your records.
- Call the Leominster Board of Health at (978) 962-3558 to request an inspection and order for repairs.
- Ask the Housing Court to order your landlord to make repairs. The Central Housing Court is at 225 Main Street, 2d Floor, Worcester, MA. Bring all proof of the bad conditions with you, including pictures and inspection reports.

## Displaced: Were you displaced from your apartment due to the flooding?

- **Hotel:** If you were displaced from your apartment by the flooding, your landlord might be required to provide you with alternative housing (such as a hotel) for a period of time. You can ask the Housing Court to order your landlord to pay for a hotel or alternative housing. The Central Housing Court is at 225 Main Street, 2d Floor, Worcester, MA. Bring all proof with you including pictures, inspection reports, and condemnation orders.
- **EA Shelter:** If you are pregnant or have a child under the age of 21, you might be eligible for Emergency Assistance Shelter, depending on your income. You can find information about EA Shelter at [www.masslegalhelp.org/income-benefits/emergency-assistance-shelter](http://www.masslegalhelp.org/income-benefits/emergency-assistance-shelter) You can apply for EA Shelter by calling (866) 584-0653 or at the DTA Office in Worcester.
- **Public and Subsidized Housing Applications:** If you have applied for public and subsidized housing, you might now be eligible for an emergency priority to move up the waiting lists. Make sure to update your CHAMP, Section 8, and other housing applications online or at the housing authority.

If you would like to speak with a lawyer for more specific advice, you can apply for Community Legal Aid:

855-252-5342 | WWW.COMMUNITYLEGAL.ORG

Community Legal Aid provides free civil (non-criminal) legal services to low-income and elderly residents of Central and Western Massachusetts. We work to assure fairness for all in the justice system, protecting homes, livelihoods, health, and families.



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