

## Weathering a Storm

With Windy weather due to cause disruption across the UK it is important property owners and motorists take action to reduce damage and potential claims.



### Maintaining your home to avoid Storm damage

- Ensure all garden furniture, children's play equipment and any other loose objects are stored away or secured to the ground, as these could damage windows etc.
- In the event of a thunderstorm, unplug electrical items to limit the risk of lightning damage
- If you are in a flood risk area, move any items of value to an upper floor or try to raise them from ground level by placing them on heavy wood or blocks.
- Put your temporary flood protection measures in place, for example put sandbags down, airbrick covers on.
- Check the latest flood developments by calling England and Wales Environment Agency's flood line on **0845 988 1188**, alternatively, go online at [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk) . For Scotland contact the Scottish Environment Protection Agency at [www.SEPA.org.uk](http://www.SEPA.org.uk) and for Northern Ireland contact [www.riversagency.ni.gov.uk](http://www.riversagency.ni.gov.uk) (links of third party sites open in a new window).
- To keep up to date with anticipated weather conditions, refer to [www.metoffice.gov.uk](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk)

### Driving In Stormy Weather

Wind can change quickly and sudden gusts can often take drivers unaware.

- Check the car in is good condition
- Check Local radio and traffic updates to plan your route
- Reduce your speed , this will increase control of the vehicle
- Be careful driving near motorcyclists and cyclists , they are more vulnerable to strong winds
- Always give lorries extra room , don't drive too close
- Be aware of debris that might be blown onto roads.