

Sewage & Flood Damage

Raw sewage and floodwaters are dangerous as they usually contain bacteria, which are extremely hazardous to your health. Just touching contaminated items or walking in contaminated areas can easily transmit these bacteria.

Even water that came out of a sewer may look clean and clear but can carry harmful bacteria and should be presumed to be contaminated.

Carpets and furnishings may not be restorable after direct contact with sewerage-contaminated water.

Children and pets are particularly vulnerable. Frequent hand washing is an important preventive measure.

Sewer backups show no concern for floor coverings - they contaminate oriental rugs as thoroughly as bath mats. People intuitively understand that the dense structure of carpeting can provide a breeding ground for bacteria.

When proper cleaning techniques are used, germicides may restore many carpets to a safe and attractive use. Unfortunately, treating the carpet surface alone will NOT provide adequate protection. To be effective the germicidal and cleaning procedures should fully saturate the carpet.

This is good news for oriental rugs, area rugs and wall-to-wall carpets installed on tack strips. These can be treated in our rug cleaning plant - with excellent results.

But it is bad news for direct glue down carpet, carpet tiles, and wide expanses of carpet, which do not lend themselves to in-plant treatment. Contaminated carpet cushion (padding) cannot be effectively treated and should be discarded.

Economics also plays a part. The age, condition, and replacement cost of the carpet will influence the cost-effectiveness of restoration. With so many factors to consider, the best assurance of satisfaction is to retain an experienced ACSR professional.

Hints & Tips

DO - treat ALL water & sewage damaged furnishings as toxic, until properly decontaminated.

DO - keep children and pets out of contaminated area.

DO NOT - track contaminated materials into undamaged areas.

DO NOT - attempt to decontaminate materials & surfaces with Supermarket products that may not FULLY disinfect the surfaces and materials.