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Watch out for these common causes of basement flooding

Basement flooding can occur at any time for a variety of reasons. Often, these floods are caused by lots of rain, or rapid snowmelts in the spring. However, they can also occur during dry weather.

Anyone with a basement is at risk, but there are steps homeowners can take to reduce their chances of flooding. Experts from Restoration 1 Canada, a restoration company that specializes in flood mitigation and restoration, have advice on the most common causes of basement floods and the best ways to treat or prevent them.

Foundation cracks. After storms, people with cracks in their foundation will experience some degree of flooding, depending on severity of the crack. If minor cracks go untreated, homeowners will experience increased flooding over time due to consistent water exposure. To prevent further damage, properly dry the foundation and repair the cracks promptly.

Frozen pipes. A common issue in colder climates is frozen pipes. Water in the pipes

freeze and expand, causing cracks and breaks in the pipes, which can result in flooding. The most common way to prevent this is to set the thermostat to the same temperature both during the day and at night. If this is not possible, letting cold water drip from the pipe continuously will help prevent the water from freezing.

Sewage backup. The most common cause of flooding in basements is sewage backups. They not only smell horrible, but are also extremely unhealthy. Tree roots, drain line corruptions and improper disposal of products down the drain are often the cause. If a sewage backup happens it is important to treat it properly. A reputable restoration company will be able to remove the sewage, disinfect, and restore the basement to its pre-loss condition.

Restoration 1 Canada notes that, regardless of the cause, treating a flood quickly and efficiently is important. Using a reputable restoration company will reduce damage and prevent mould.

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