

[QUICK DAM]

THE NEXT GENERATION IN FLOOD PROTECTION™

FLOOD BAGS & BARRIERS

Frequently Asked Questions

Quick Dams, what are they and how do they work?

- Quick Dams contain a super absorbent polymer (similar to what's inside baby diapers) that react and swell on contact with water. Once activated (typically 5 minutes), the water is contained as a gel within the fabric, thus acting as a barrier.

How do you activate them?

- Lay them in position and wait for the rain, spray with a hose, dunk them in a bucket of water, lay them in a puddle or place them in a water source like a stream.

Do I have to add water?

- Depending on your situation, you may pre-activate them or let the weather activate them. Quick Dams can be placed in position and wait for water to arrive. If a current of water is expected, partially activating them is recommended so that they don't float away. If building a retaining wall is desired, pre-soaking & stacking them is recommended.

Do Quick Dams work with salt water applications?

- No, Quick Dams do not work with salt water, calcium, lime or chlorine. There is a chemical reaction that causes the water to be released back out, making them not effective as a barrier & must be thrown away.

How should I position Quick Dam Flood Barriers?

- Flood Barriers contain a wedge to prevent them from rolling. When laying in position, be sure to place the "mini channel" away from flooding water. This will assure that as it grows, it acts as a wedge to secure in position. Ideally, place Quick Dams outdoors in the path of problem water & divert it, before it becomes a problem. They can also be used to absorb & contain a leak or spill.

I noticed some white crystals on the outside of the product after I activated it. Is that normal?

- Yes, this is normal. During our manufacturing process the needles can pull the powder through the stitched seam, which will cause crystals to appear the first time you activate the product. The gelled water will wash away with water, degrade over time & is non hazardous.

How long do Quick Dams last?

- Un-activated:** indefinite as long as kept dry, so store in their closed package until needed.
- Activated:** if left in position, they can last for 6-12 months.

Can I re-use them?

- Yes, you can re-use them. Once activated, Quick Dams will remain active until the water evaporates, typically taking a several weeks for complete evaporation. If left in position, they will shrink while evaporating and grow when re-exposed to water.

They seem to shrink. Is that normal?

- Yes, as the water evaporates, they will get smaller. If complete evaporation is desired, store Quick Dams in a dry environment. Over several weeks, Quick Dams will shrink & become crunchy. Once re-exposed to water, they will swell again.

What do I do with them when I'm done?

- Quick Dams are environmentally friendly and can be disposed of in the trash. Quick Dam contents will degrade with UV exposure, pressure and time, leaving an empty pouch that can be thrown in the trash.

I notice a slimy feel on the Quick Dams, what is that?

- Quick Dams contain a super absorbent polymer that is non-toxic & non-hazardous and will degrade over time. This degradation is the slime that you feel. Simply wash or wipe it off.

Can Quick Dams be used indoors and outdoors?

- Yes they can, although they will be moist, so be careful when leaving them on floors that may get water damage.

What stops Quick Dams from rolling away?

- Quick Dam Flood Barriers have an extra wedge stitched along its length that acts as a wedge & prevents them from rolling away.

Can they protect against water higher than 3.5in?

- Quick Dams can be stacked 3 high in a brick formation. If you need to go higher, widen the base like a pyramid formation. The higher you need the wall height, the thicker the base should be. Stacking straight up will create an unstable base and they may slide off.

If activated Quick Dams are torn open and the gelled contents exposed. Is it hazardous to children or pets?

- The gelled contents are not hazardous and non-toxic. If eye contact, flush with plenty of water. If ingested, it will simply pass through the system. Wet contents will be VERY slippery, so sweep up & dispose to prevent slips & falls.

Will Quick Dams leak water?

- Quick Dams will absorb, swell & gel water, creating a barrier. If the surface is uneven, seepage may occur. If large amounts of water are expected, double layers or stacking & building a wall may be necessary to prevent leakage. Quick Dams are not a solution for every application.

Will Quick Dams get moldy?

- Quick Dams alone will not grow mold, but if they were activated with contaminated water, then there is a possibility, so storing them outdoors to dry out is recommended.

Do Quick Dams have an odor?

- No, not on their own. Although they will absorb an odor if it is present in the fluid absorbed.

Can I drive over Quick Dam Flood Barriers?

- Yes & No. As long as the Barriers are NOT fully activated, then you can drive over it- making sure to "squish" the gel back in place to prevent water from seeping through in that area. If the Barriers are fully activated, then you cannot, as the gel needs to go somewhere.

Can Quick Dams be used in the winter/snow?

Will they freeze?

- Yes, they can be used in the winter/snow. Make sure they are fully activated before freezing temperatures occur to assure maximum protection when the snow is melting. We do not recommend moving them while frozen to prevent any tearing of the outer material. Also, Salt on the roads should not come in contact with Quick Dams. To help, pre-activate Quick Dams with water & then wrap plastic under & over the top to prevent the salt from making contact.

I've seen other similar items using a white knit or jute fabric, how are they different from Quick Dams?

- One of the key features of Quick Dams (Patent Pending) is their extended life of several weeks to months after being activated. The black non-woven durable fabric provides UV protection that prevents degradation of the inner absorbent. Allowing a consumer to leave Quick Dams in position for ongoing protection. The white, knit & jute products allow UV rays to penetrate through to the inner absorbent, thus degrading them in only 2-3 weeks.

Can Quick Dams be used in the garage for snow melt protection?

- Yes they can, but if the cars or driveway have salt on them, this may cause the Quick Dams to only partially absorb & still allow moisture underneath. For this application, we recommend the Water Curb or Water-Gate.

What if Quick Dams get torn open and the contents spill out?

- Contents are not hazardous, simply sweep up & dispose. Contents can also be spread in garden or lawn area to help maintain moisture & promote vegetation growth.