

A close-up photograph of thin, brown branches heavily laden with clear, crystalline ice. The background is a blurred, light-colored surface, possibly snow or a concrete walkway. The overall scene conveys a sense of winter weather and the potential for a spring thaw.

SPRING THAW **GUIDE**

The logo for Flex Seal, featuring the brand name in a bold, yellow, stylized font with a black outline. Below the name is a blue water droplet icon. The entire logo is set against a red background with a pattern of small, white, circular water droplets.

**FLEX
SEAL**
**FAMILY OF
PRODUCTS**

SPRING THAW PREPAREDNESS 101

Now that spring is here; the weather will begin warming and thawing all that snow from the winter season. What does that mean for you as a homeowner? You need to have a game plan in place for the flooding and water damage associated with the spring thaw. The home repair and leak specialists at Flex Seal Family of Products have put together a comprehensive guide to improve your spring thaw preparedness, help you survive the change in weather, and inform you on what you can do after the weather warms back up.



Spring Thaw Preparedness PLAN

Planning before a potential emergency is critical to getting through the spring thaw safely. Here are the Flex Seal team's best tips and bits of advice for what to do before, during, and after the spring thaw impacts your area.





PREPARE

- Remove excess snow around your house so that the snow will not thaw and drain into the foundation of your home.
- Check your home's drainage to ensure debris does not block them from the winter. These include the flood drains outside of your home, the floor drains in your home, and roof drains.
- Maintain gutters and downspouts so they do not become backed up by winter ice, snow, and debris. Failure to check this could lead to overflows and flooding.
- Have your roof inspected for any damages that could lead to flooding into your home. Make sure to clear any snow from your roof as well safely.
- Install water alarms and flood sensors if your home is likely to flood. They will alert you when unwanted water enters your home.
- Elevate items in your basement, so they are out of reach or protected if the water finds its way into your home.
- Install a sump pump in your basement to remove the excess water around your home's foundation. If you already own one, make sure it's clean, and the intake valve is clear from any blockage.
- Purchase flood insurance ahead of time. Most homeowner policies do not include flood insurance, so plan ahead of time. Keep in mind that flood insurance takes effect 30 days after the date of purchase.
- Ensure exterior pipes have insulation. During the nighttime, quick temperature changes can cause pipes to freeze and thaw repeatedly. A frozen pipe may burst and cause severe water damage, so keeping pipes wrapped until the cold weather passes for good can prevent sudden floods.
- Check door and windowsills for any openings or cracks. To prevent any water from getting into your home and causing damage, seal and protect the area with the **FLEX SEAL® Family of Products.**

SPRING THAW TIPS (AFTER THE THAW)

BASEMENT FLOODING: As the climate begins to warm up, the ground begins to thaw. This makes it harder for the ground to absorb rain or melt snow. In addition, it's common for pipes to freeze and burst in the wintertime. Both scenarios can lead to basement flooding. After removing the water from your basement, you need to seal it.

The Solution: Just roll Flex Seal Liquid on your basement walls. This will seal out water, air, and moisture. Consider Flex Seal Liquid your liquid insulator. Flex Seal Liquid comes in three sizes: large 16 oz, jumbo 32oz, and 1 gallon. They cover approximately 20 square feet, 40 square feet, and 150 square feet, respectively. We suggest using more than one coat to properly seal the deal.

DAMAGED WOOD: An ugly winter can give your wooden deck and fence a real beating. For one, any unsealed wood is at high risk in the wintertime. The wet weather will not only fade out the wood, but it can also destroy its stability.

The Solution: Apply Flex Seal rubberized coating to your damaged wooden fences and decks for a simple and effective solution. It will fill any cracks on your wood and protect it from further damage. Just spray it 8 to 12 inches away from the surface using an even sweeping motion. Apply several even coats until all cracks and holes have been filled. Allow 24 to 48 hours to dry before applying another coat. Flex Seal fully cures in 48 hours. If you want your wood to keep its original colour, Flex Seal Clear is the best option.

FOUNDATION: Hairline cracks in your home's foundation can turn into huge problems if not fixed immediately. The last thing you want is the foundation crumbling from beneath you.

The Solution: If you notice any cracks in your foundation after the winter season, fill them immediately with a liquid rubber sealant. Flex Seal Liquid is the perfect option for this type of home winter damage, and it even comes in four different colours: black, white, clear, and gray – so you have options. If no colour is a perfect match for your foundation, opt for the Flex Seal Liquid Clear. Not only will it seal your cracks, but it will also keep your foundation's original colour. You can cover your foundation with Flex Seal Liquid in two different ways. You can roll it or brush it on. What matters most is that you apply it not just to the cracked area but also to the surrounding area.





WEATHERING THE SPRING THAW

- If you're not in an area that's recommended for or mandates evacuation, plan to stay indoors.
- If you're in a remote area where roads are not often clear, plan to stay indoors.
- If the power goes out, use flashlights in the dark. Avoid using candles.
- If water does begin to enter your home,

- [Flex Seal](#), [Flex Tape](#), [Flex Paste](#) and [Flex Shot](#) are all great products made to STOP LEAKS FAST and can be used on wet surfaces.
- Listen to local authority updates and turn off power and water mains if instructed to do so.
- Make sure you know how to turn off your main water shutoff valve.

RECOVER & REPAIR



TIME TO SPRING INTO ACTION WITH THE FLEX SEAL FAMILY OF PRODUCTS

- Listen to local officials for weather updates and instructions.
- Inform family members and friends that you are safe.
- Check on neighbours.
- Avoid walking or driving through any hazardous weather conditions.
- Assess any damage to your home. Photograph the damages so you may file the proper insurance claims.
- Get a professional to check water, gas, electric and sewer lines.
- Prevent any further major damage to your property.
- Be prepared with Flex Seal



BRING ON THE SPRING REPAIRS

You can improve your spring thaw preparedness by adding some Flex Seal Family Products to your readiness plan. Check out the guide below for how you can use our super strong sealant and adhesive products before and after the warm weather rolls in.



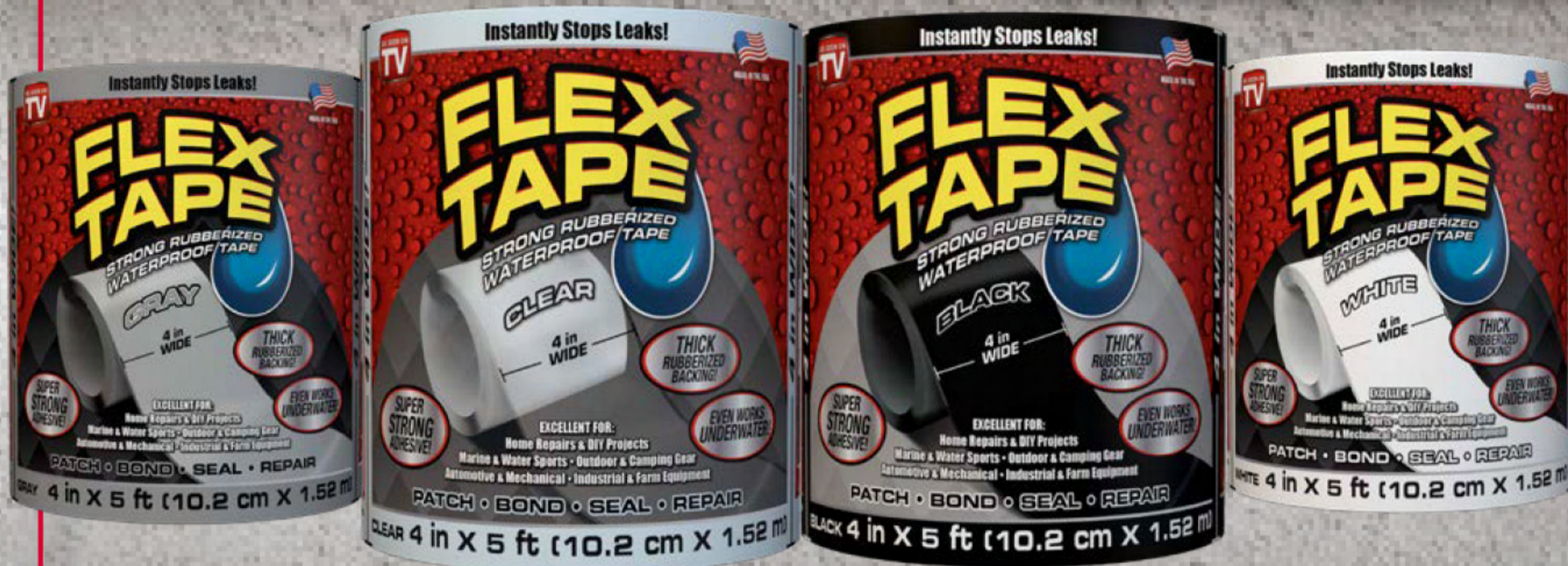
In an emergency where water may be entering your home, apply Flex Seal to the compromised area to stop the leak fast. Flex Seal can be applied to moist or damp surfaces, but for a more effective application, reapply another coat when the area is dry.

Gutters, attics, and other hard-to-reach places may be susceptible to water damage during the spring thaw. Prevent potential damage by applying Flex Seal before the thaw's arrival. (You may also use Flex Seal to repair leaks caused by the winter's aftermath.)



If your gutters are filled with snow, your window wells could become seriously flooded during the thaw. This flooding could cause water to pour into your home through the window. Cover window wells with a weather-resistant tarp and secure with Flex Tape for a watertight seal.

Wrap any outdoor valuables, equipment, and anything susceptible to water damage in a heavy-duty polyurethane tarp and use Flex Tape to secure shut for a watertight seal.



In the event your home's shingles or siding may get damaged from the flooding, you can repair with Flex Tape for a reliable, immediate solution to prevent any further damage until a more permanent solution can be executed.

Cover any vulnerable windows or doors with a heavy-duty, polyurethane tarp and seal with Flex Tape to prevent water from entering your home should the need arise.

Water damage is expensive, make sure your home is properly protected by sealing your windows and doors with Flex Paste. Our super strong paste creates a watertight barrier that seals out air, water and moisture.

Flex Paste can be applied underwater. Our super thick rubberized paste is perfect for underwater repairs.

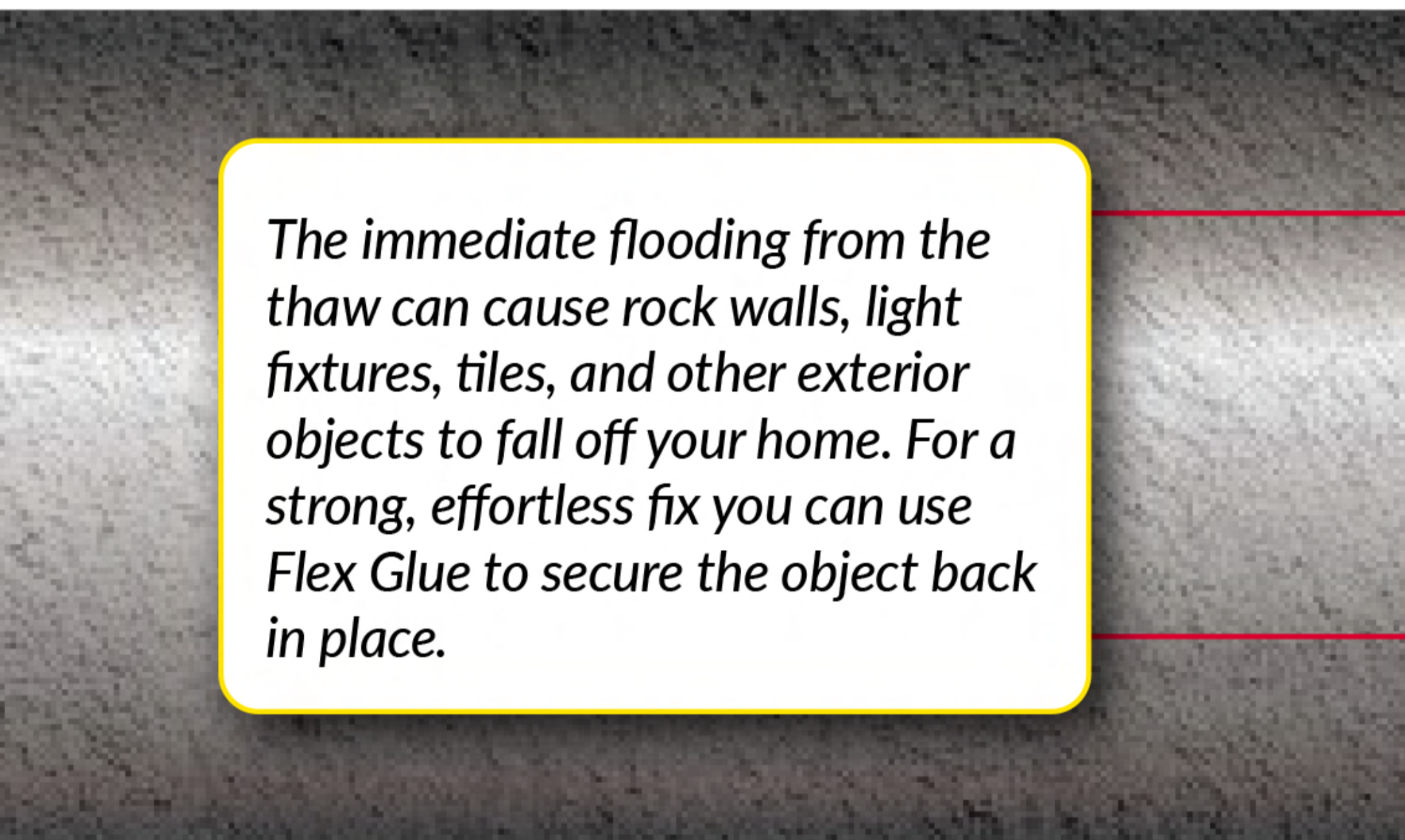


Keep pests out! Large gaps, cracks, and holes around your home's exterior are open doors for pesky pests. Fill them with Flex Paste to create a practically impenetrable barrier that keeps vermin out.



Severe weather can cause cracks in your home's foundations. For a quick emergency fix, seal the crack with Flex Shot.

Prior to the spring thaw, search your home's windows and doors for any leaks or cracks and apply Flex Shot for a waterproof seal.



The immediate flooding from the thaw can cause rock walls, light fixtures, tiles, and other exterior objects to fall off your home. For a strong, effortless fix you can use Flex Glue to secure the object back in place.



Keeping water away from your foundation is critical when there is a lot of downfalls whether it is snow or water. Downspout extenders are a great way to prevent excess water damage around your home during a storm. Flex Seal Liquid can be used while assembling or repairing your gutter system.

Severe flooding can cause basement or outside walls to dampen or crack. Apply Flex Seal Liquid to these walls with a roller prior to a storm to create a waterproof barrier.

Fallen trees or other objects can cause large holes in your roof. You can easily repair these yourself by using a drywall patch or heavy screen and covering with Flex Seal Liquid or Flex Tape for a watertight patch.