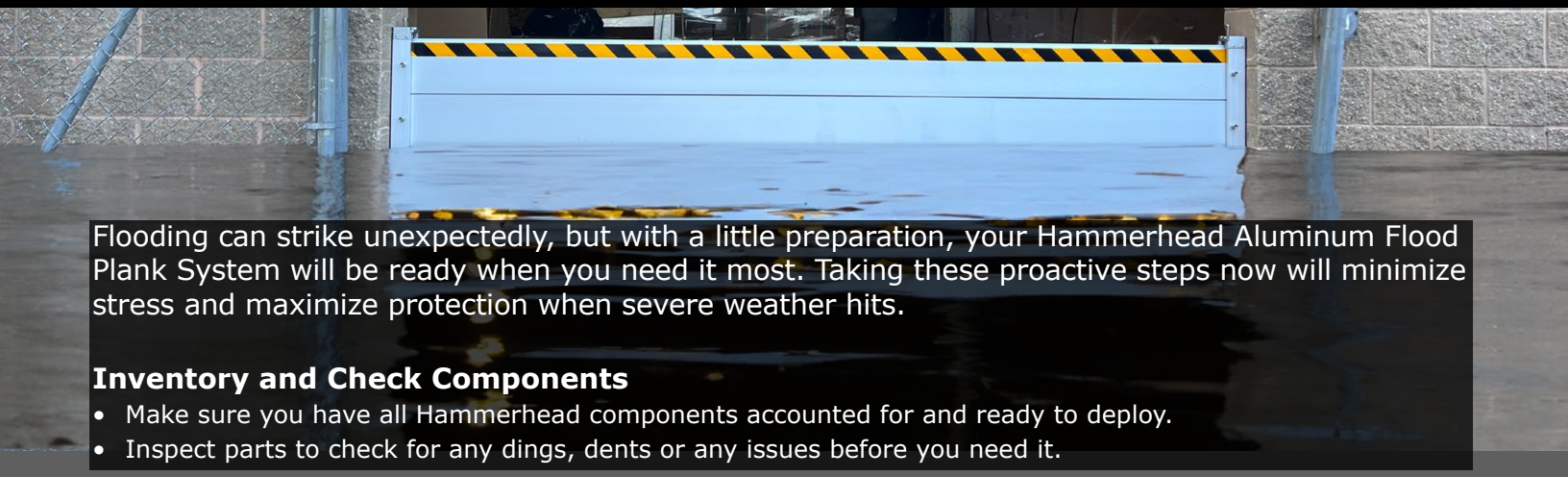
HAMMERHEAD
ALUMINUM FLOOD PLANKS

HOW TO PREPARE IN ADVANCE OF A STORM



Flooding can strike unexpectedly, but with a little preparation, your Hammerhead Aluminum Flood Plank System will be ready when you need it most. Taking these proactive steps now will minimize stress and maximize protection when severe weather hits.

Inventory and Check Components

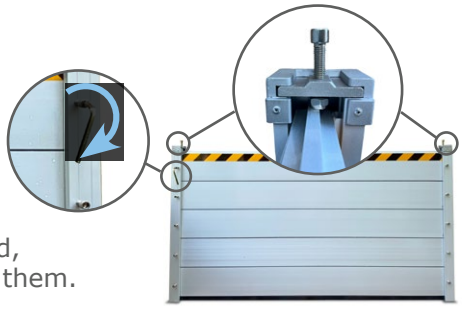
- Make sure you have all Hammerhead components accounted for and ready to deploy.
- Inspect parts to check for any dings, dents or any issues before you need it.

Inspect Caulking

- **Visually examine** the caulking around the mounting posts:
  1) Check seal between the post and the wall.
  2) Check caulk/seal between the base of the post and the ground.
- **Look for signs of cracking, drying, or gaps** where the caulk has pulled away from the surfaces.
- **Check the depth of the caulk** to ensure there's a sufficient amount for a watertight seal. A good rule of thumb is for the bead of caulk to be slightly wider than the gap it's filling.
- **Re-caulk** if you find any cracks, gaps, or insufficient caulk by removing the old damaged caulk with a utility knife or caulk remover tool. Clean and dry before re-applying.

Inspect Planks

- Tension bottom plank down so its fully compressed to ensure a seamless seal across the bottom plank.
- Before installing each plank, check that the rubber seals are intact.
- When installing each plank into the posts, secure the tension plate and bolts to pressure planks down to create a tight seal.
- Use the top tensioning plate to pressure planks downward, enhancing the seal between them.



Additional Flood Protection Strategies:

- **Consider Using A Dewatering Pump:** Consider using a sump pump behind your Hammerhead system. This can help reroute any minor seepage or rainwater runoff that might collect on the backside, further enhancing your flood protection. View our Sea Sponge Dewatering Pump.

- **Minnow Water Absorbing Bags:** For additional peace of mind, you may consider having a supply of Garrison's Minnow water absorbing bags on hand. These can be strategically placed behind the Hammerhead system to soak up any minor seepage that might occur, preventing it from becoming a nuisance.

- **Evacuation Planning:** Remember, even with floodproofing measures in place, safety always comes first. As FEMA advises, if you have installed dry floodproofing measures like the Hammerhead system, it's crucial to evacuate your property well in advance of a major flood event.

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Additional Flood Prevention Measures

While Hammerhead offers a good first line of defense against flooding, there are other measures that should be taken to prevent flooding in your structure.

Seal Exterior Outlets, Vents, and Conduit in Advance of Flooding

Some exterior power outlets, dryer vents, and conduits open from the exterior of a structure into the structure itself, creating potential entry points for water infiltration in the event of flooding. Therefore, proactive measures and steps should be taken to thoroughly seal off any openings to prevent any possibility of water seepage through these vulnerable openings.

Check the Exterior of Your Walls and Openings for Cracks

While the Hammerhead will effectively protect various openings, it is of utmost importance to thoroughly review the entire perimeter of your structure for any cracks or vulnerabilities that could potentially allow seepage into your home. Particular care should be taken with plank siding, as this material could permit water infiltration to occur between the individual slates. It is also essential to closely check the seam between your foundation and walls, ensuring that these areas remain entirely water tight to prevent any unwanted moisture intrusion. Consulting with a professional engineer can provide valuable insight and guidance on identifying possible water infiltration points that may exist beyond your door and window openings. Furthermore, many structures may feature shared party walls, so it is crucial to confirm that water cannot flow from an unprotected neighboring space into your own area.

Check Your Basement and Foundation for Potential Leaks

Floods will cause water tables to rise and it is important to have a secure and watertight foundation that can resist rising water levels. Consult a professional contractor who can help seal any cracks in your foundation. For a shared structure, water can infiltrate from a neighbors unprotected area via crawl spaces, so it is important to confirm the the structures entire foundation and bottom floor level is waterproofed.

Consider Back-Up Pumps and Back-Flow Drain Preventers

Flooding causes the water table to rise and creates back-flow pressure in sewage systems, drains and water pipes. It is important to determine if your space is at risk from back-flowing water that can rise. A professional plumber can install back-flow preventer valves to prevent water infiltration. Dewatering or sump pumps are recommended as a second line of defense against any water leakage. No perimeter is hermetically sealed, as such some leakage should be expected. FEMA recommends all dry flood-proofed structures have back up pumps to capture and pump any excess water leakage from the structure. Garrison offers our portable Sea Sponge dewatering pump as well as an automatic switch that activates when water is sensed. You might also consider heavier duty in-ground sump pumps to offer greater protection and water pumping capability.

Cick Here to learn more about additional flood prevention measures

Shown: Sea Sponge dewatering pump

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