

Dear State Representative Earl Read,

I'm writing to share our personal experience and concerns regarding the ongoing flooding issues from the Pawtuxet River. We live approximately 30 feet higher than the river's level, yet we continue to face costly and stressful consequences.

In January of 2024, we were hit by two major rainstorms — on January 9th and again on January 13th. Despite proactive preparations, we had four feet of water in our basement. My husband Ed still lost tools and equipment, which were not fully covered by insurance. The damage was extensive and emotionally draining.

This wasn't an isolated event. Over our seven years living here, we've endured multiple flooding incidents, including being jolted awake at 4 a.m. more than once to find water rising in our home. After the January flood, we had no choice but to install a sump pump, just to protect ourselves from the next inevitable storm.

We currently pay \$2,000 per year for flood insurance — a significant financial burden for a property that sits well above the river. And even with that coverage, the stress is constant. Every time it rains, my anxiety spikes, and we endure sleepless nights, wondering if this will be the storm that overwhelms us again.

I've attached several photos that illustrate the flooding and its impact on our home and neighborhood:

- Flood line marked in our basement stairwell (Image 1 – "1/10/24 waterline")
- News coverage of Main Street flooding in West Warwick (Image 2 – "NBC10 screenshot 1/10/24")
- Basement view with submerged belongings (Image 3 – "Flooded stairs view")
- Photo albums of both January storms from my Facebook reels (Image 4 & 5 – "Storm album 1/9–1/10/24" and "Storm album 1/13/24")
- Our installed sump pump (Image 6 – "Sump pump installed after flood")

We urge the Commission and the Legislature to prioritize permanent and effective flood mitigation measures. The frequency and severity of these floods have taken a real toll — financially, physically, and emotionally — on homeowners like us.

Thank you for your time and your work on this important issue. We would appreciate being kept informed of any upcoming decisions or developments.

Sincerely,

Amanda Spencer & Edward St Jean

900 Main Street

West Warwick, RI 02893

1/15/24



Post



Liz Bateson
@LizBatesonTV



A back & side yard of a home on Main Street in West Warwick. @NBC10



11:13 AM · 1/10/24 From Earth · **64** Views

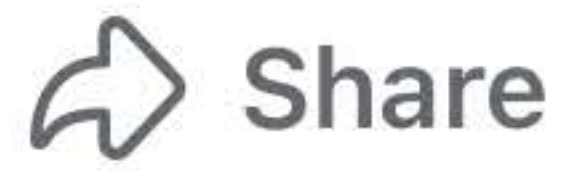




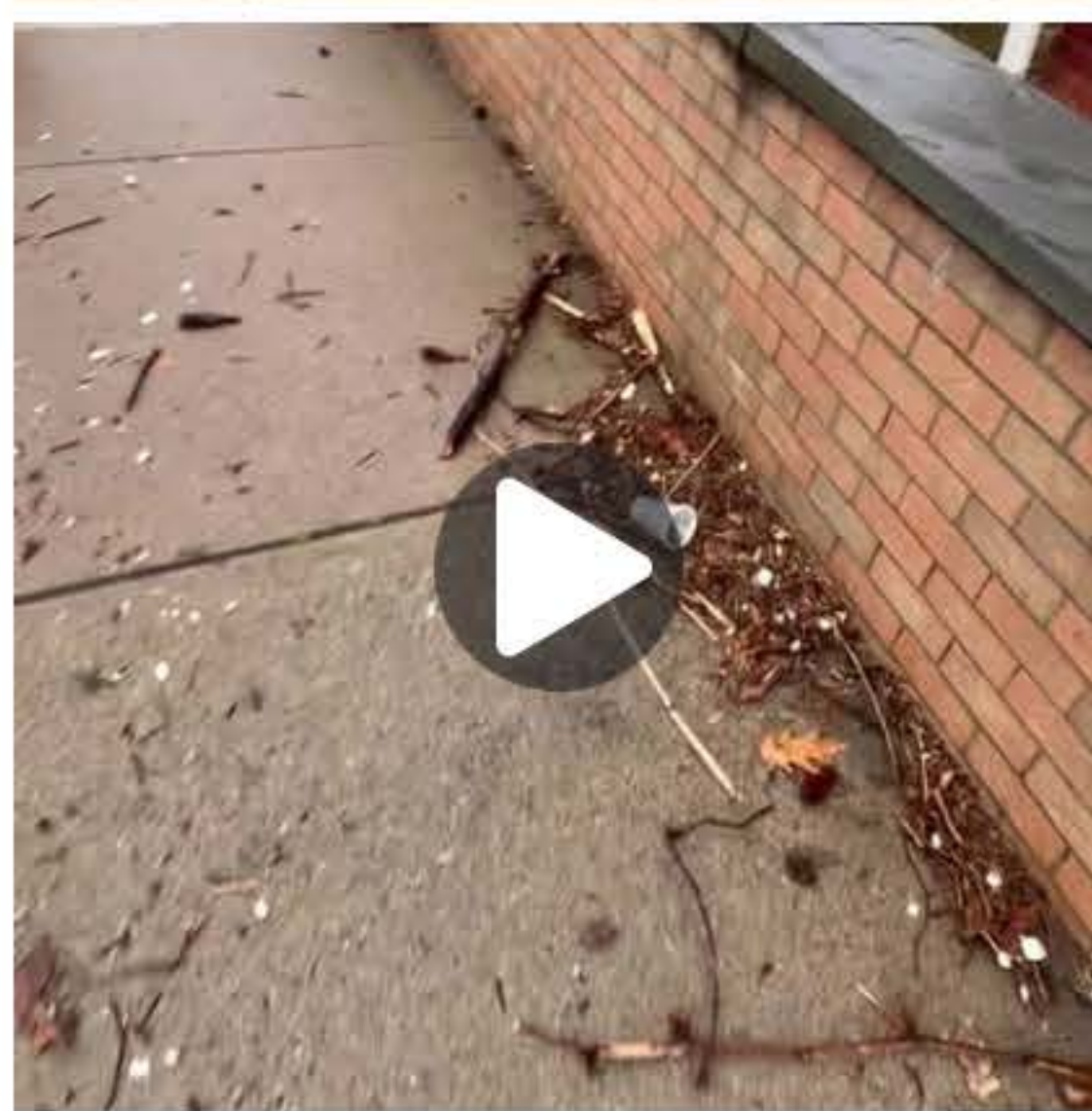
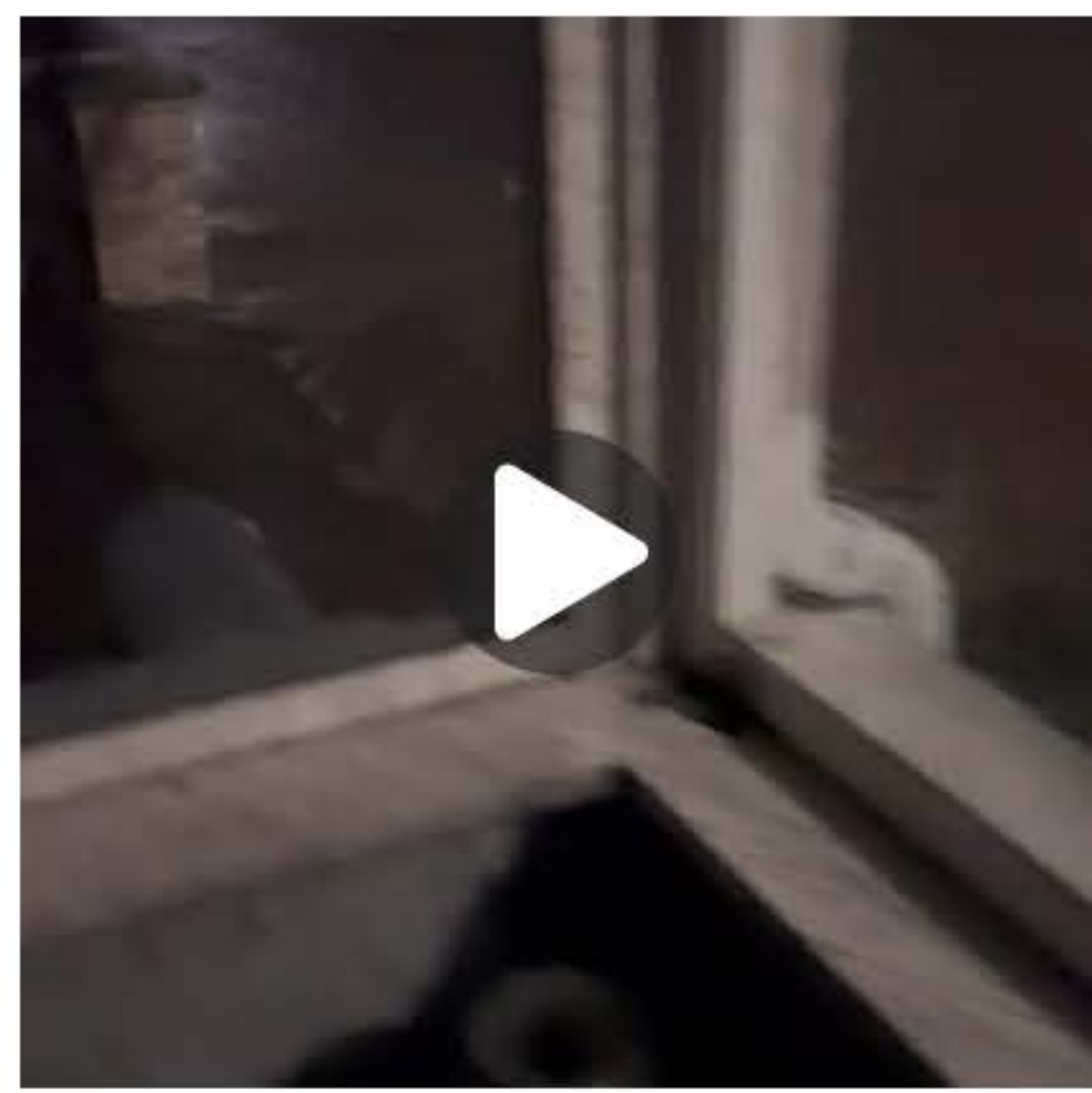


Winter wind & rain storm 01/09/24-01/10/24

Updated Jan 21, 2024 • 👥 Your friends



Add photos/videos



Liz Bateson
@LizBatesonTV

A back & side yard of a home on Main Street in West Warwick. @NBC10

11:13 AM · 1/10/24 From Earth · 64 Views



Home



Friends



Profile



Notifications



Menu



rain and wind storm 01/13/24

Updated Jan 13, 2024 • 👥 Your friends



Like



Comment



Share



 Add photos/videos



Home



Friends



Profile



Notifications



Menu



1000 027 540
SUMP BASIN COVER
EVERBILT
FITS 18" DIAMETER
SUMP PUMP
USA
MADE IN USA
RECYCLED

1003 061 718
USA
RECYCLED