



SANDBAGGING AND DIKE CONSTRUCTION

SAFETY TIPS

- Individuals with a medical condition that would make it dangerous for him/her to participate should avoid taking part.
- Wear protective gear such as steel toe boots, hat, safety glasses, gloves, etc.
- Be attentive of large equipment moving in the area.
- Be aware of flood water dangers: contamination, varying water flows, strong undercurrents, floating debris.
- Adhere to proper sandbag handling technique:
 - ⇒ Do not bend more than 20 degrees in any direction while handling sandbags.



- ⇒ Keep heavy weights below shoulder height, above knees and close to the body. Limit reaching with arms when passing the sandbags.



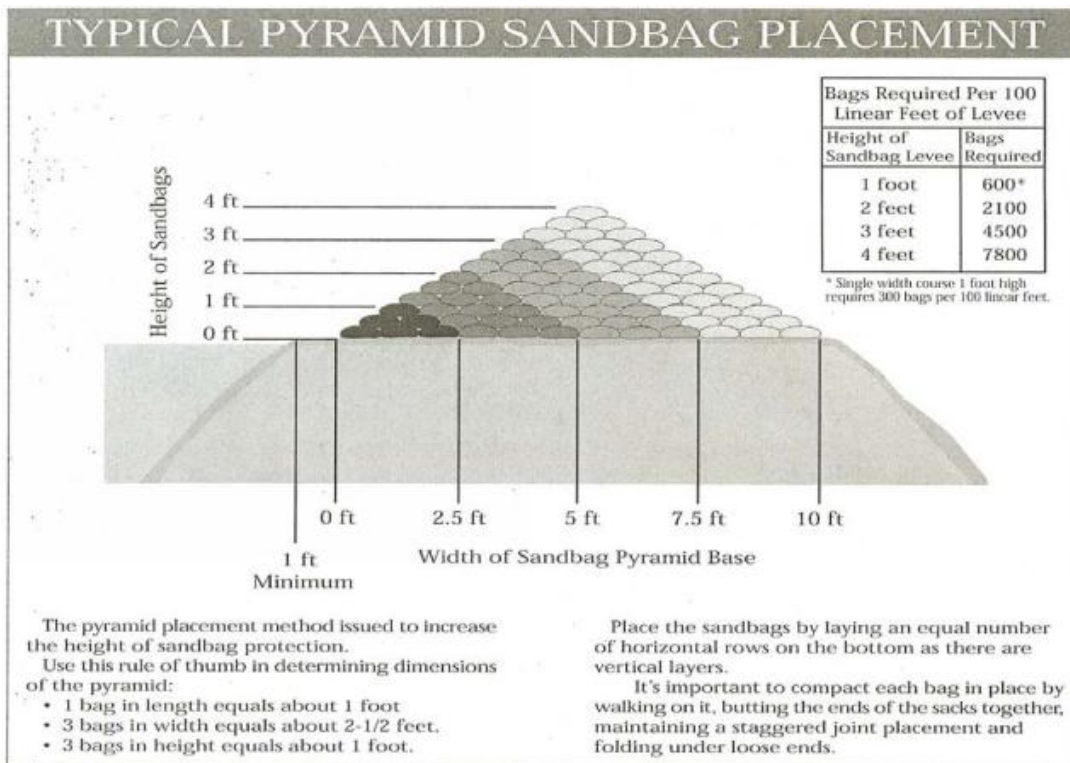
- ⇒ Pivot feet and do not twist through the back while handling sandbags
- Do not throw sandbags



SANDBAGGING AND DIKE CONSTRUCTION

Sandbag Placement

The number of sandbags needed to protect a home or building varies depending on the local topography and the anticipated depth of water. Limit placement to two layers unless they are stacked against a building or sand bags are placed as described below in the pyramid pattern.



If you are planning to erect a flood barrier you should do so for all non essential entrances or exits prior to flood and freezing weather. Do not block emergency exits while building is occupied. Maintain a stockpile for your needs. Weather events may limit or prevent the ability to obtain sandbags or build sandbag barriers.

SANDBAGGING AND DIKE CONSTRUCTION



This procedure is designed to minimize flood damage. (Takes approximately 30 to 45 minutes with 2 people per entrance)

- Execute shut down procedure and evacuate non essential employees from your facility (if applicable)
- Secure facility (lock up)
- Seal door cracks with duct tape, sealant/caulking or expanding foam.
- Place duct tape over any sharp edges of building that may tear plastic.
- If you are barricading glass windows or doorways, you should have sheet of 3/4" plywood to place between the framework and keep the load off of glass. This may require some additional structural framing depending on span. (Consult a contractor if required)
- Stretch plastic barrier against wall extending past openings several feet in each direction and tape. (A freestanding wall would require plastic on outside of wall)
- Stack your sandbags against wall. Stagger your sand bags with top of bag pointing in direction of the next sand bag your stacking, to lock in place

