



Flood Resilient Homes Program



Resident

Peter Seward



House Type

Post-war timber cottage



Resilience works

- Raise the hot water unit
- Raise the washing machines
- Install separate circuits (with breakers) on ground level and upper levels.



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Peter's story

Property owner Peter Seward rents out his post-war timber cottage in suburban Brisbane and has seen a number of overland flow flooding issues over the years.

"The tenants had told me they lost two washing machines due to flooding," says Peter. "And it had flooded once when I was living there myself. It doesn't take a 2011-sized flood to flood the place. Under the house is below ground level."

Peter says he was delighted when he received a letter from Council inviting him to participate in the Flood Resilient Homes Program. "I said you little beauty, I'll be part of this."

He booked a Home Service and had a meeting at the property with two flood resilience experts. "I thought they were really good. Libby and James, they were the ones that came out for the initial meeting."

Following the Home Service, Peter received his report which recommended a number of solutions including building high benches in the laundry for the washing machine and dryer, and having separate electricity circuits on different levels of the house.

Peter has an eye for detail. Although the Incentive Scheme covered the cost of the proposed works, it was particularly important to him to first understand what was planned.

"I'm an engineer by training and I wanted to know the details, like what building materials they were going to use and that kind of thing. Once I got that, I was satisfied

they knew what they were doing and it was going to turn out okay. Tom [the builder] was a pleasure to deal with. He was right on top of it and responded to all my emails and answered voice messages when there was a need."

What does he think of the program as a service for Brisbane property owners?

"I think it's excellent. I'm really stoked about the whole program. For me it costs nothing and I'm getting a great service and my tenants are tickled pink."

