

Flash Floods And Floods

Avoid Being Caught In A Place Like This Before the flood...

What to Listen for...

FLASH FLOOD OR FLOOD WATCH: Flash flooding or flooding is possible within the designated **WATCH** area-be alert.

FLASH FLOOD OR FLOOD WARNING: Flash flooding or flooding has been reported or is imminent, take necessary precautions at once.

URBAN AND SMALL STREAM ADVISORY: Flooding of small streams, streets, and low-lying areas, such as; railroad underpasses and urban storm drains, is occurring.

FLASH FLOOD OR FLOOD STATEMENT: Follow-up information regarding a flash flood/flood event.

The rule for being safe in a flooding situation is simple:

HEAD FOR HIGHER GROUND AND STAY AWAY FROM FLOOD WATERS!

Go to higher ground - Climb to safety!

- Get out of areas subject to flooding. This includes dips, low spots, canyons, washes, etc.
- Avoid already flooded and high velocity flow areas. Do not attempt to cross flowing streams.
- If driving, be aware that the road bed may not be intact under flood waters. Turn around and go another way. **NEVER** drive through flooded roadways!
- If the vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground. Rapidly rising water may engulf the vehicle and its occupants and sweep them away. Remember, it's better to be wet than dead!
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.
- Do not camp or park your vehicle along streams and washes, particularly during threatening conditions.
- Children should **NEVER** play around high water, storm drains, viaducts, or arroyos.

What you can do

- **Know** your flood risk and elevation above flood stage.
- **Know** your evacuation routes.
- **Keep your automobile fueled.**
- **Store drinking water** in clean bath tubs and in various containers.
- **Keep a stock of nonperishable food.**
- **Keep first aid supplies** on hand.
- **Keep a NOAA Weather Radio**, a battery powered portable radio, emergency cooking equipment, and flashlights in working order.
- **Install check valves** in building sewer traps to prevent flood water from backing up into drains of your home.