

# Flash Floods And Floods

## *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.

- **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.

The rule for being safe in a flooding situation is simple:  
**HEAD FOR HIGHER GROUND AND STAY AWAY FROM FLOOD WATERS!**

- Get out of areas subject to flooding, including dips, low spots, canyons, washes, etc.
- Do not attempt to cross flowing streams.
- If driving, **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.
- 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 or storm drains.

## **What consumers should know about flood insurance:**

1. Everyone lives in a flood zone.
2. Flood damage is not covered by homeowners insurance policies.
3. You can purchase flood insurance regardless of your level of flood risk. There is usually a 30-day waiting period before the coverage goes into effect.
4. There is a low-cost policy for homes in low to moderate risk areas.
7. Contents coverage is separate, so renters can insure their belongings.

## ***National Flood Insurance Program***

If you live in a flood-prone area, consider purchasing Federal flood insurance, which will cover the value of a building and its contents. You can call 888-FLOOD-29 to learn more about Federal flood insurance.



**To learn more about flood hazard mitigation, visit FEMA's website at:  
<http://www.floodsmart.gov>**