

FLOOD SAFETY RULES

When you receive a flood warning:

- Store drinking water in clean bathtubs and in various containers. Water service may be interrupted.
- If forced to leave your home, and time permits, move essential items to safe ground; fill fuel tanks to keep them from floating away; grease immovable machinery.
- Move to a safe area before access is cut off by flood water.

During the flood:

- Avoid areas subject to sudden flooding.
- Do not attempt to cross a flowing stream where water is above your knees.
- Do not attempt to drive over a flooded road – you can be stranded or trapped. The depth of water is not always obvious.

After the flood:

- Do not use fresh food that has come in contact with flood waters.
- Boil drinking water before using. Wells should be pumped out and the water tested for purity before drinking.
- Seek necessary medical care at the nearest hospital. Food, clothing, shelter and first aid are available at Red Cross shelters.
- Do not visit disaster areas; your presence might hamper rescue and other emergency operations.
- Do not handle live electrical equipment in wet areas. Electrical equipment should be checked and dried before being returned to service.
- Use flashlights, not lanterns or torches, to examine buildings. Flammables may be inside.
- Report broken utility lines to appropriate authorities.

FLASH FLOOD SAFETY RULES

Flash flood waves, moving at incredible speeds, can roll boulders, tear out trees, destroy buildings and bridges, and scour out new channels. Killings walls of water can reach heights of 10 to 20 feet. You won't always have warning that these deadly, sudden floods are coming.

When a flash flood warning is issued for your area or the moment you first realize that a flash flood is imminent, act quickly to save yourself. *You may only have seconds.*

- Go to high ground immediately.

- 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 a flowing stream on foot where water is above your knees.
- Do not drive through flooded areas. Shallow, swiftly flowing water can wash a car from a roadway. Also, the roadbed may not be intact under the water.
- If the vehicle stalls, abandon 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.