**Flood Fact Sheet**

[**Basic Safety Tips**](https://www.ready.gov/floods)

* Turn Around, Don’t Drown! ®
* Avoid walking or driving through flood waters.
* Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down, and 2 feet of water can sweep your vehicle away.
* If there is a chance of flash flooding, move immediately to higher ground. Flash floods are the #1 cause of weather-related deaths in the US.
* If floodwaters rise around your car but the water is not moving, abandon the car and move to higher ground. Do not leave the car and enter moving water.
* Avoid camping or parking along streams, rivers, and creeks during heavy rainfall. These areas can flood quickly and with little warning.

[**Flood Watch**](https://www.ready.gov/floods)

**Flood Watch** **= “Be Aware.”** Conditions are right for flooding to occur in your area.  
  
**Steps to Take**

* Turn on your TV/radio. You will receive the latest weather updates and emergency instructions.
* Know where to go. You may need to reach higher ground quickly and on foot.
* Build or restock your emergency preparedness kit. Include a flashlight, batteries, cash, and first aid supplies.

**Prepare Your Home**

* Bring in outdoor furniture and move important indoor items to the highest possible floor. This will help protect them from flood damage.
* Disconnect electrical appliances and do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water. You could be electrocuted.
* If instructed, turn off your gas and electricity at the main switch or valve. This helps prevent fires and explosions.

[**Flood warning**](https://www.ready.gov/floods)

**Flood Warning = "Take Action!"**Flooding is either happening or will happen shortly.

**Steps to Take:**

* Move immediately to higher ground or stay on high ground.
* Evacuate if directed.
* Avoid walking or driving through flood waters. Turn Around, Don’t Drown! Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down and 2 feet of water can sweep your vehicle away.

[**After a Flood**](https://www.ready.gov/floods)

* Return home only when authorities say it is safe.
* Be aware of areas where floodwaters have receded and watch out for debris. Floodwaters often erode roads and walkways.
* Do not attempt to drive through areas that are still flooded.
* Avoid standing water as it may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines.
* Photograph damage to your property for insurance purposes.

[**When it is not flooding: Make a flood plan**](https://www.ready.gov/floods)

* [Know your flood risk](https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/flooding_flood_risks/defining_flood_risks.jsp).
* Make a flood [emergency plan](http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan).
* Build or restock your [emergency preparedness kit](http://www.ready.gov/kit), including a flashlight, batteries, cash, and first aid supplies.
* Consider buying [flood insurance](http://www.floodsmart.gov/).
* Familiarize yourself with local emergency plans. Know where to go and how to get there should you need to get to higher ground, the highest level of a building, or to evacuate.
* Stay tuned to your phone [alerts](file:///C:\alerts), TV, or radio for weather updates, emergency instructions, or evacuation orders.

 