



Flood Preparedness

Who's at risk?

Floods can happen anywhere, any time of year, but densely populated areas have a high risk for flash floods. Almost half of all flash flood fatalities are vehicle related. If you're driving and approach a water-covered road, don't take chances – turn around, don't drown! Six inches of water can be enough to stall a vehicle. Two feet can float most cars, trucks and SUVs.

Stay high and dry with these flood safety tips:

- Determine your risk: know your proximity to rivers, streams and dams.
- During or after heavy rains, avoid underpasses, underground parking garages, and basements.
- If you're hiking or camping along a stream or river, stay alert to local weather conditions.
- And stay away if thunderstorms are predicted, or if they've happened recently.
- Develop an evacuation plan for your family. Make sure everyone knows what to do in case of flooding.
- Be prepared for power and service interruptions. Keep your car fueled, stock bottled water and non-perishable food, and get a first aid kit.
- Never attempt to drive through a flooded road. And never drive around a flood barricade.
- If your vehicle stalls, get out and move to higher ground.
- If you're walking in water that's above your ankles, stop and turn around. You can be swept off your feet by as little as six inches of rushing water.