



Flood

Did you know that flood waters only a half-foot deep can be strong enough to sweep a person off their feet?

Floods are among the most frequent and costly natural disasters. When heavy or steady rain saturates the ground over several hours or days, flood conditions may occur. Flash floods occur suddenly due to rapidly rising water along a stream or low-lying area.

Before

- ☐ Make a plan (see p. 5) and build a kit (see p. 6).
- ☐ Listen to area radio and television stations and a NOAA weather radio for possible flood warnings and reports of flooding in progress or other critical information from the National Weather Service (NWS).
- ☐ Be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice.
- ☐ Because standard homeowner's insurance doesn't cover flooding, it's important to have protection from the floods associated with hurricanes, tropical storms, heavy rains and other conditions that impact the U.S. For more flood safety tips and information on flood insurance, please visit the National Flood Insurance Program Web site at www.FloodSmart.gov.

During

- ☐ When a flood or flash-flood warning is issued for your area, head for higher ground and stay there.
- ☐ Stay away from floodwaters. If you come upon a flowing stream where water is above your ankles, stop, turn around and go another way. Six inches of swiftly moving water can sweep you off of your feet.
- ☐ If you come upon a flooded road while driving, turn around and go another way. If you are caught on a flooded road and waters are rising rapidly around you, get out of the car quickly and move to higher ground. Most cars can be swept away by less than two feet of moving water.
- ☐ Keep children out of the water. They are curious and often lack judgment about running water or contaminated water.
- ☐ Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood danger.

After

- ☐ Let friends and family know you're safe.
- ☐ Do not enter your home until officials say it's safe.



Landslide

Did you know that landslides take place most often where they've happened in the past? They're also more common in areas recently burned by a wildfire.

Before

- ☐ Make a plan (see p. 5) and build a kit (see p. 6).

During

- ☐ If you suspect imminent danger, evacuate immediately. Inform affected neighbors if you can, and contact your public works, fire or police department.
- ☐ Listen for unusual sounds that might indicate moving debris, such as trees cracking or boulders knocking together.
- ☐ If you are near a stream or channel, be alert for any sudden increase or decrease in water flow and notice whether the water changes from clear to muddy. Such changes may mean there is debris flow activity upstream so be prepared to move quickly.
- ☐ Be especially alert when driving—watch for collapsed pavement, mud, fallen rocks and other indications of possible debris flow.
- ☐ If you are ordered or decide to evacuate, take your animals with you.
- ☐ Consider a precautionary evacuation of large or numerous animals as soon as you are aware of impending danger.

After

- ☐ Stay away from the slide area. There may be danger of additional slides.
- ☐ Check for injured and trapped persons near the slide, without entering the direct slide area. Direct rescuers to the person's locations.
- ☐ Listen to local radio or television stations for the latest emergency information.
- ☐ Watch for flooding, which may occur after a landslide or debris flow. Floods sometimes follow landslides and debris flows because they may both be started by the same event.
- ☐ Look for and report broken utility lines to appropriate authorities. Reporting potential hazards will get the utilities turned off as quickly as possible, preventing further hazard and injury.
- ☐ Check the building foundation, chimney, and surrounding land for damage. Damage to foundations, chimneys, or surrounding land may help you assess the safety of the area.
- ☐ Replant damaged ground as soon as possible since erosion caused by loss of ground cover can lead to flash flooding.