

Never attempt to drive on roads that are covered or submerged in water. Take an alternate route if approaching a flooded roadway. Just six (6) inches of rapidly moving flood water can knock a person down and some vehicle can be swept away in one foot of water.

If your car stalls, abandon it immediately, and climb to higher ground.

Related Guides:

- After a Disaster
- Children and Disasters
- General Preparedness
- Handling Stress
- Hurricanes
- Insurance
- Shelter-In-Place
- Shelter Living
- Special Needs
- Thunderstorms and Lightning
- Winter Storms

In an emergency call:
9-1-1

For more information:

TC: 919-245-6100

Fax: 919-732-8130

Email:

es@orangecountync.gov

Flood Preparedness Guide



Source: FEMA

Flash floods are **common in the warm season** due to thunderstorms depositing large amounts of rain in short periods of time. Although hilly and mountainous terrain is especially prone to flash floods, they may also occur in relatively flat areas.

Flooding is connected to other hazards and storms. Sometimes flooding is the result of accidents such as dam breaks. During these hazards consider flooding a possibility and be prepared.

- Flooded streams and rivers are not safe for recreational boating.
- Never let children play near creeks or storm drains when the water is rising or high.
- Never set up a tent or camper on the bank of a river or stream.
- If you live in a low-lying area or near a creek, pay close attention to water levels during heavy rain events and be prepared to move quickly to higher ground.
- If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Follow recommended evacuation routes as shortcuts may be blocked.

Before the Flood:

- Know your flood risk and evacuation routes.
- Check for Flood Watches and Warnings through radio, TV, the Internet or through your NOAA Weather Radio.
- If it has been raining hard for several hours, or steadily raining for several days, be alert for a possible flood.
- Keep your automobile fueled.
- Prepare an Emergency Kit.
- Ask about flood insurance from your insurance agent or local government.

After the Flood:

- Roads may be closed, damaged, or covered by water. If you come upon a barricade or a flooded road, go another way.
- Flooding may have caused familiar places to change. Floodwaters often erode roads and walkways.
- Do not handle live electrical equipment.
- Report downed power lines.
- Listen for news about what to do, where to go, or places to avoid.
- If your home has been flooded, open the doors to let out bad air.