

STORMS & FLOODS PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

Importance of Storm and Flood Preparedness

Flooding is the temporary water overflow on an area of land that doesn't usually have water. Floods are the most common natural disaster in the US, so storm and flood preparedness is critical to protect the lives of you, your family members, and your pets, no matter where you live.



Flood Preparedness Before the Storm



- Learn about the types of flooding that can occur in your area.
- Create a flood emergency preparedness plan for your family.
- Know and practice your evacuation routes.
- Create a family emergency communication plan.
- Make a copy for each family member and one for your home.
- **Put together a disaster supply kit with the following items:**

One gallon of water per person for several days

Non-perishable food with manual can opener

First aid kit and cleaning supplies

Solar powered charging block (for cell phones)

Flashlights with extra batteries

Copies of important documents, sealed in a waterproof bag

Flood Preparedness During the Storm

Remember, 6 inches of moving water can knock you down, and 1 foot can float your car.

- Follow all evacuation orders for your area.
- Evacuate the area immediately, move to higher ground, and seek safe shelter.
- Follow your family emergency evacuation plan as best as you can.
- Move valuables to higher ground only if time permits.
- Monitor the storm:
 - <https://www.weather.gov/>
 - <https://water.weather.gov/ahps/>
 - <https://mobile.weather.gov/>
 - NOAA All Hazards Radio
 - Wireless Emergency Alerts for Flash Flood Warnings



- NEVER drive over a flooded road.

If You Are Trapped



- If trapped in a building, move to the highest level you can.
- Avoid closed attics and only move to the roof if absolutely necessary.
- If trapped in moving water in your car, remain inside.
- If water is rising inside the vehicle, get on the hood if you can.

Flood Preparedness After the Storm

Return to your home only when authorities tell you it is safe.

Stay away from damaged areas and avoid potentially contaminated floodwater.

Check your home for damage to walls or foundation.

Clean and disinfect all wet items.

Wear protective clothing when cleaning after a flood.

Evacuate immediately if you smell gas or chemical fumes.

Watch for snakes and other animals that often appear during a flood.

Throw out food or drinking water that has been in contact with floodwater.

Inspect electrical systems and water lines for potential damage.

Contact your insurance company if your home suffered damage.

Stay Informed



- Be a force of nature: <https://www.weather.gov/wrn/force>
- Flood Safety Awareness: <https://www.weather.gov/safety/flood>
- TADD: <https://www.weather.gov/safety/flood-turn-around-dont-drown>
- NWS: <https://www.weather.gov>
- US National Weather Service Facebook page
- US National Weather Service Twitter page
- NWS AHPS: <https://water.weather.gov/ahps/>

