

Turn Around Don't Drown®

Most flood-related deaths and injuries could be avoided if people followed this simple advice: Turn Around Don't Drown®. More than 50% of flood related deaths are due to someone driving or walking into floodwaters.

- ✓ 6 inches of fast-moving flood water can knock an adult off his or her feet and sweep them away.
- ✓ 12 inches of moving water can carry off a small car.
- ✓ 18 to 24 inches of water can carry away larger vehicles including trucks, vans and SUVs.

If you come to an area that is covered with water, you may not know the depth of the water or the condition of the road or ground underneath. This is especially true at night, when your vision is more limited. Play it safe. Whether driving or walking any time you come to a flooded area, Turn Around Don't Drown®.

Forces on Vehicles Crossing Streams

The car will be carried when:
Buoyancy force **Greater Than** Vehicle Weight



There is no friction force once the vehicle is lifted off the road

Nearly half of all flood fatalities are vehicle related



Learn more about
Flood Safety at:

[www.weather.gov/
floodsafety](http://www.weather.gov/floodsafety)



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Flood Safety

for you and your
family



Before a Flood

- ✓ Stay informed-visit weather.gov or tune into your local news for the latest forecast.
- ✓ Determine weather your home, school or work is in an area likely to flood.
- ✓ Learn which roadways are likely to flood and find an alternative route so you can avoid them.
- ✓ Create a communications plan so your family will know how to connect during an emergency.
- ✓ Assemble an emergency kit.
- ✓ If you might be evacuated, pack your bags and include items for your pets so you're ready to leave at a moment's notice.
- ✓ Charge all essential electronics.
- ✓ Be proactive-leave before the flooding starts to avoid getting stranded.



Image from the FEMA Photo Library

During a Flood

- ✓ Stay informed-tune into your local news for updates on flooding in progress.
- ✓ Get to higher ground if you are in an area that is subject to flooding.
- ✓ Follow evacuation orders and heed warning signs.
- ✓ If you have time before you evacuate, disconnect utilities and appliances.
- ✓ Avoid flood waters. It is NEVER safe to drive or walk through flood waters.

After a Flood

- ✓ Stay informed-tune into your local news for updates on affected areas and the safety of your drinking water.
- ✓ Avoid floodwaters-standing water can hide chemicals that can make you sick, power lines that can cause electrocution and sharp debris that can seriously harm you.
- ✓ Avoid disaster areas-your presence may hamper emergency operations.
- ✓ Heed road closure and cautionary signs.
- ✓ Wait for the "all clear" before returning to an area that was impacted by flooding.
- ✓ Contact your family and loved ones to let them know you're ok.



Image from the FEMA Photo Library

For more information, visit

www.weather.gov/floodsafety/