

FLOOD SAFETY TIPS

- Do not walk through flowing water. Six inches of water is enough to knock you off your feet
- Do not drive through a flooded area. A car that weighs less than 1,500 pounds could float in a foot of water. Two feet of water will carry away most cars.
- Stay away from downed power lines. Electrical current can travel through water.
- Watch for animals and snakes. Small animals that have been flooded out of their homes may seek shelter in your home.
- Watch your step. After a flood, the ground is covered with debris including broken glass and sharp objects just below the mud. Wet or muddy steps can be slippery.
- Use a flashlight to check for gas leaks. Soapy water on gas lines will reveal leaks as soap bubbles form. Don't use candles or smoke until you are certain there are no gas leaks.
- Have an evacuation plan for yourself and family members. Choose a route and a meeting place.
- Prepare an emergency kit in a portable container. Make it small enough to grab quickly and go. Suggested items for such a kit include portable radios, flashlights, spare batteries, spare car keys, spare pair of glasses, prescription medication, nonperishable food items, bottled water, first aid kit, blanket, list of important numbers and copies of important papers.
- Consider buying flood insurance now. Normally there is a 30 day waiting period before policies go into effect.