

Flood Notices and What to Do

WATCH: When a **Flood Watch** (or Flash Flood Watch) is issued, monitor information and updates on the radio, television and/or the Internet. Be prepared to evacuate if the watch escalates to a warning.



WARNING: When a **Flood Warning** (or Flash Flood Warning) is issued, a flood event is imminent or occurring. Move household possessions to upper level of home and be ready to evacuate. Your gas tank should be full in case of evacuation order.



Weather Radio for Mobile Devices

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Weather Radio offers a 24/7 broadcast of weather information – including forecasts, warnings, and other hazard information – from the nearest National Weather Service office.

Find your local station online at [nws.noaa.gov/nwr/coverage/station_listing.html](https://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/coverage/station_listing.html).

You can also download the **NOAA Weather Radio** app to your mobile device from your app store.



Additional Resources

- Federal Emergency Management Agency:
[fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov)
- NOAA National Weather Service:
[weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov)
- National Flood Insurance Program:
[fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program](https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program)
- California Nevada River Forecast Center:
[cnrfc.noaa.gov](https://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:
[usace.army.mil](https://www.usace.army.mil)
- U.S. Geological Survey:
[usgs.gov](https://www.usgs.gov)



California Department of Water Resources
[FloodPrepareCA.com](https://www.FloodPrepareCA.com)



Response to flood emergencies begins at the local level. To find your local contact, go to [FloodPrepareCA.com](https://www.FloodPrepareCA.com) and look for the **Local Emergency Services** link.

Be Aware!
Be Prepared!
Take Action!



FLOOD
PREPARE
CALIFORNIA



FloodPrepareCA.com

BE AWARE!

Don't let Mother Nature fool you. Catastrophic flooding can happen in the middle of a drought or during heavy rainstorms. It has happened before. In fact, the risk of flooding increases when California is suffering the effects of severe drought.

Climate change is expected to bring even more extreme weather to California than usual: longer, drier droughts and more ferocious storms, both of which can increase flood risks. Heavy downpours often lead to dangerous flooding conditions. And dry soils from multi-year droughts create perfect conditions for dangerous flash floods. California, for all of its natural beauty and benefits, is a land of extremes. So just remember, even if we're in a drought, ***Flood Prepare California!***

Think you and your family are safe from raging waters, mudslides or debris flows? Think again. Check out this online tool where you can enter your address to **know your risk and be aware:**

myhazards.caloes.ca.gov

A service provided by the
Governor's Office of Emergency Services



BE PREPARED!



On the Road

Californians love their cars. It seems we are **always on the go.** Whether we're driving to work, dropping our children off at school, shopping, or visiting friends and family across the state, we're at risk of flash flooding during storms.

Did you know that more than half of all flood-related drownings occur when a vehicle is driven into hazardous flood water? When you approach water in the road, no matter how shallow it appears, be prepared to ***Turn Around Don't Drown.***® Visit tadd.weather.gov to watch a message from the National Weather Service and pick up some potentially life-saving driving tips.

At Home

Are you prepared to respond to mandatory orders to evacuate your house, condo or apartment at a moment's notice? Put together a flood emergency kit so you can bring along what's important to you.

To find out what should go into your home emergency kit, visit ready.gov/kit. You can also visit redcrossstore.org to purchase an emergency kit or emergency supplies. Take the time to prepare now because you might not have time later. It's vital to ***be prepared.***

TAKE ACTION!

1. Share flood preparedness information with neighbors, students, family and friends. Using online resources, demonstrate how to prepare an emergency kit and an evacuation plan.



2. Store emergency kits at work, home and in your car. Periodically check supplies and refresh water, food, batteries and first aid items when needed.



3. Establish a family communication plan for emergencies. Your family may not be together during an emergency, so think about how you will communicate and where you will meet following an evacuation. Periodically review your plan.



4. Keep storm drains clear. If your property is prone to flooding, have sandbags, plastic sheeting and other flood-fighting materials on hand.



5. Consider flood insurance. Most homeowners' insurance policies do not cover flood damage. Ask your insurance agent about obtaining flood insurance from the National Flood Insurance Program. Typically, a 30-day wait period is required before a flood insurance policy takes effect. Contact your insurance provider for more information.

