



# Are you Ready for a Flood or a Flash Flood?

**Here's what you can do to prepare for such emergencies...**

## **Know what to expect**

- ✓ Know your area's flood risk - if unsure, call your local emergency management office or local emergency planning committee.
- ✓ If it has been raining hard for several hours, or steadily raining for several days, be alert to the possibility of a flood.
- ✓ Listen to local radio or TV station for flood information.



## **Reduce potential flood damage by**

- ✓ Raising your furnace, water heater, and electrical panel if they are in areas of your home that may be flooded.

## **Floods can take several hours to days to develop**

- ✓ A flood **WATCH** means a flood is possible in your area.
- ✓ A flood **WARNING** means flooding is occurring or will occur soon in your area.

## **Prepare a Family Disaster Plan**

- ✓ Check to see if you have insurance that covers flooding. If not, find out how to get flood insurance.
- ✓ Keep insurance policies, documents, and other valuables in a safe-deposit box.

## **Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit containing**

- ✓ First aid kit and essential medications.
- ✓ Canned food and can opener.
- ✓ At least three gallons of water per person.
- ✓ Protective clothing, rainwear, and bedding or sleeping bags.
- ✓ Battery-powered radio, flashlight, and extra batteries.
- ✓ Special items for infants, elderly, or disabled family members.
- ✓ Written instructions for how to turn off electricity, gas, and water if authorities advise you to do so. (Remember you'll need a professional to turn natural gas service back on.)



# Are you Ready for a Flood or a Flash Flood?

**Identify where you could go if told to evacuate. Choose several places.. a friend's home in another town, a motel, or a shelter.**

## **When a flood WATCH is issued**

- ✓ Move your furniture and valuables to higher floors of your home.
- ✓ Fill your car's gas tank, in case an evacuation notice is issued.

## **When a flood WARNING is issued**

- ✓ Listen to local radio stations (**WKRR** and **WCVP/WCNG**), for information and advice. IF told to evacuate, do so as soon as possible.

## **When a flash flood WATCH is issued**

- ✓ Be alert to signs of flash flooding and be ready to evacuate on a moment's notice.

## **When a flash flood WARNING is issued**

- ✓ Or if you think it has already started, evacuate immediately. You may only have seconds to escape. Act quickly!
- ✓ Move to higher ground away from rivers, streams, creeks, and storm drains. **DO NOT** drive around barricades. They are there for your safety.
- ✓ If your car stalls in rapidly rising water, abandon it immediately and climb to higher ground.

