



Severe Weather Safety Tips: **Flash Flooding**



Provided by
Kentucky Emergency Management (KYEM)

Flash flood waters move at very fast speeds and can roll boulders, tear out trees, destroy buildings, and obliterate bridges. Walls of water can reach heights of 10 to 20 feet and are generally accompanied by a deadly cargo of debris and chemicals. The best response to any sign of flash flooding is to move immediately and quickly to higher ground.

Before a Flash Flood

- Learn flood warning signs and your community alert signals.
- Plan and practice an evacuation route.
- Locate and check your pre-assembled emergency survival kit.
- Have a family communication plan in case family members become separated from one another during a flash flood.

During a Flash Flood

- Turn on your battery operated radio or TV to get the latest emergency information.
- If officials order evacuation, leave immediately!
- If you are outdoors, climb to higher ground and stay there.
- NEVER walk through floodwaters
 - **Just 6 inches of swift moving water can sweep you off your feet!**
- NEVER drive through floodwaters
 - **Just 2 feet of swift moving water can sweep a car off the road!**
- Most flash flood waters recede as quickly as they rise.
 - **Remember - "Turn Around - Don't Drown."**
- If your car stalls anywhere near rising water level, abandon it immediately and climb to higher ground.

After a Flash Flood

- Flood dangers do not end when the water begins to recede. Listen to a radio or TV and do not return home until authorities indicate it is safe to do so.
- Inspect foundations for cracks and other damage.
- Stay out of buildings if flood water remains in or around the building.

