

Are you ReadyNC? ... for Floods

Floods are one of the most common dangers in North Carolina and can occur any time, any where. They may be caused by large amounts of rain, hurricanes or dam failures. Most hurricane damage is caused by flooding.

Know the Terms

Flood watch – rainfall is heavy enough to cause rivers to overflow their banks. Flooding is possible.

Flood warning – flooding is occurring or very likely to happen in an affected river, lake or tidewater area.

Flash flood watch – flash flooding in specified areas is possible.

Flash flood warning – flash flooding is occurring or is likely to happen along certain streams and select areas.



Be Safe! Act Quickly

- Build an emergency kit.
- Make a family communications plan.
- Listen to the radio or television to learn what to do.
- Do not build in a floodplain unless you take the proper steps to raise and support your home.
- If you live in a flood high-risk area, elevate your home's furnace, water heater and electrical panel above base flood elevation.
- Think about putting in "check valves" to prevent flood water from backing up into the drains of your home.
- If you can, build barriers to stop floodwater from entering the building. Seal walls in basements with waterproofing compounds.
- Be aware of flooded or washed-out roads. Just a few inches of water can float a car. Don't walk or drive through moving water. Think: **Turn Around, Don't Drown.**

Remember...

- ◇ Insurance companies do not include flood damage on a standard homeowner's policy. You may need to buy a separate flood insurance policy.
- ◇ Find out if your home is in a flood zone. Go to www.ncfloodmaps.com to learn about the risk of flooding in your area.



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