



Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management



Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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- WHAT:** Preparing for Heavy Rain, Flash Floods and Lightning Strikes
- WHERE:** Southeastern New Mexico, although flash floods can occur anywhere
- HOW:** If there is a flash flood warning in your area seek high ground immediately if you are on foot. If you are driving, do not cross low areas where water is flowing. It only takes 6 inches of rushing water to sweep a vehicle downstream.
- Be aware of streams, drainage channels, canyons, arroyos and other areas known to flood suddenly. Flash floods can occur in these areas even if it is not raining.
- Be aware that lightning can travel 10 miles. The safest place to be if there is lightning is inside a building or in a hard topped car. Use only cordless or cell phones during thunderstorms and lightning.
- If you need to evacuate secure your home. Bring in outdoor furniture and move essential items to an upper floor. Turn off utilities at the main switches. Do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water.

Check on your neighbors and family to make sure they know flooding is likely.

Do not walk through moving water. Stay tuned to local TV and Radio or NOAA Weather Radio for the latest weather information.

Don't forget your pets. Bring them inside and take them with you if you evacuate.

Go to www.ready.gov for complete information on preparing for disasters and making an Emergency Plan.

Make A Plan Make A Kit Get Involved

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