

Flood Safety Checklist

Flood season has begun and the LMRFC is doing our part by providing the public with the best river forecasts possible. The greatest forecast in the world is useless unless you take actions to avoid loss of life and property. That is why the National Weather Service has developed this flood safety checklist.

Before the Flood

- * Know your risk and elevation above flood stage.
- * Know your evacuation routes.
- * Keep your automobile fueled.
- * Store drinking water in clean containers.
- * Keep a stock of food that requires little cooking and no refrigeration.
- * Keep first aid supplies on hand.
- * Keep a NOAA Weather Radio, a battery-powered portable radio, emergency cooking equipment, and flashlights in working order.
- * Listen to local radio or television for flood info.
- * Floods can take several hours to days to develop.

A flood WATCH means that a flood is possible in your area. A flood WARNING means that flooding is already occurring or will occur soon in your area.

During the Flood

- * Get out of areas subject to flooding. This includes dips, low spots, canyons, washes, etc.
- * Avoid already flooded and high velocity flow areas. Do not attempt to cross flowing water.
- * If driving, be aware that the road bed may not be intact under flood waters.
- * If the vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- * Children should NEVER play around high water, storm drains, viaducts, or arroyos.

After the Flood

- * If fresh food has come in contact with flood waters, throw it out.
- * Boil drinking water before using.
- * Do not visit disaster areas.
- * Electrical equipment should be checked and dried before being returned to service.
- * Use flashlights to examine buildings.
- * Report downed utility lines to your local power company.