

Your Monsoon Safety Family Disaster Plan

Meet with your family to discuss the hazards that could occur where family members live, work, go to school and the routes to those locations.

Determine where family members would meet outside your home in case of an emergency, and a place outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home.

Choose an out-of-town family member or friend as your family check-in contact for everyone to call if the family gets separated, and an out-of-town neighborhood friend in case the first one does not answer.

Discuss what you would do and how to do it if advised to evacuate.

Post emergency telephone numbers by phones. Include cell phone numbers of family and contact points. Have family members carry these numbers with them.

Keep emergency supplies in your home sufficient for three days to a week in case your area ever loses basic water, electricity and gas service.

Assemble a disaster supplies kit with things you will need to have in order to evacuate.

Also, consider the needs of elderly family members, anyone with disabilities, infants and family pets in times of emergencies.

For more details visit: www.ready.gov/america/getakit



Some Flood Prone Areas to Avoid Around Pima County During Flash Flood Season

- Stone Ave. at Navajo Rd.
- Stone Ave. Underpass downtown
- 1st Ave. at Navajo Rd.
- 1st St. at Main Ave.
- 22nd St. at Tyndall Ave.
- 7th Ave. at Rodeo Wash
- Alamo Wash at Stella Rd.
- Escalante Rd. at Sarnoff Dr.
- 24th St. at Sarnoff Dr.
- Bonanza Ave., south of Tanque Verde Rd.
- All of Kinney Rd.
- All of Gates Pass Rd.
- All of Sandario Rd.
- Mission Rd. from Drexel Rd. to San Xavier Rd.
- Speedway Blvd., east of Tanque Verde Loop Rd.
- Overton Rd. at Cañada del Oro Wash
- Snyder Rd. from Kolb Rd. to Sabino Canyon Rd.

Avoid other low lying areas close to, or crossing washes, streams and arroyos.

For more information, please contact:

Floodplain Management Division
201 N. Stone Ave., 9th Fl. • Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 724-4600 • www.pima.gov/floodcontrol



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monsoon SAFETY

FORCES ON VEHICLES FROM HIGH WATER

There is no friction force when the vehicle is lifted off the road

VEHICLE WEIGHT



FRICTION FORCE



BUOYANCY FORCE



The car will be carried when BUOYANCY FORCE is greater than VEHICLE WEIGHT

Nearly half of all flood fatalities are vehicle related.



PIMA COUNTY
FLOOD CONTROL

public information series

**DO NOT ENTER
WHEN FLOODED**



The Monsoon in Pima County

This type of storm happens in the months of June, July, August and September. These intense summer rain storms can contain heavy rain, lots of lightning and strong winds. They often cause dangerous flash floods.

Flash floods are the number one weather related killer in the United States. A flash flood is a rapid rise of water in a street, wash crossing or low lying urban area. Flash flood damage and fatalities tend to occur in areas immediately adjacent to washes, arroyos, drainage channels and street crossings.

Monsoon Related Hazards

- Flash floods
- Lightning
- High winds
- Dust storms
- Downed power lines
- Streets flooded with water and debris
- Reduced visibility
- Mud and rock slides
- Fast moving deep water in channels
- Dangerous roadway underpasses
- Wild fires
- Hail

It only takes 6 inches of fast moving water to knock a person off their feet.



Monsoon Driving Safety

A flash flood can travel miles beyond the storm that generated it, catching unwary hikers and motorists by surprise.

Never attempt to drive across a flooded roadway. Nearly half of all flash flood fatalities are auto-related and about 75% of fatalities occur at night.

If you come upon a flooded roadway STOP. The depth of the water is not always obvious. The roadbed may be washed out under the water and you could be stranded or trapped. Wait for the flood waters to go down or turn around and go another way.

Turn Around, Don't Drown!

It only takes two feet of flowing water to sweep most vehicles downstream. Low profile vehicles can be moved even easier.

Do not drive around a barricade. Barricades are there for your protection.

When driving at highway speeds excess water on the roadway can cause your vehicle to lose traction. Slow down to a safe speed to avoid hydroplaning and losing control of your vehicle.

Monsoons often contain high winds and cause dust storms, presenting additional driving hazards.

Terms to Describe Flash Flooding

Flash Flood Watch-

Flash flooding is possible. Be prepared to move to higher ground. A flash flood could occur without any warning. Listen to NOAA National Weather Service Weather Radio or commercial radio or television for additional information.

Flash Flood Warning-

A flash flood is imminent or has been reported. Seek high ground immediately.

Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory-

This advisory alerts the public to flooding which is generally not serious (not life-threatening) to those living in the affected area. This advisory is issued when heavy rain will cause flooding of streets and low lying places in urban areas. Also used if small rural or urban streams are expected to become full or exceed bank full. Some damage to homes or roads could occur.

During flash flood season the National Weather Service via NOAA Weather Radio 162.4 Mhz has 24-hour weather broadcasts.

Warnings are also broadcast on local radio and television stations.

Online information is available at:

<http://wrh.noaa.gov/tucson>

