



C L A R K C O U N T Y REGIONAL FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

F L O O D S A F E T Y T I P S

- Flash flood season is July through September, but floods can happen any time of the year without warning.
- A **Flash Flood Watch** means that a flood is possible in your area. A **Flash Flood Warning** means that a flood is already occurring or will occur very soon. Only the National Weather Service can declare a watch or a warning.
- In the event of a major storm that may cause isolated flooding, it is safer for you to stay where you are and wait for the storm to end, rather than attempting to drive anywhere.
- If you are driving and are caught in a major storm, consider pulling over to a location higher than the street and wait out the storm. Intense summer storms in Southern Nevada are usually over in a couple of hours.
- Never drive through a flooded roadway or around barricades. Roads underneath may be damaged and impassable.
- If your car stalls, it may be safer to stay with the vehicle. Swift moving water only inches deep can sweep you off your feet and result in drowning. Only you can make the decision about which option is safer.
- The majority of flood-related deaths are caused by people attempting to drive through moving water. Swift moving floodwater can sweep away cars. Larger vehicles, such as trucks and SUVs, may be more likely to float because large air-filled tires increase the buoyancy of the vehicle.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize the dangers of flash floods, such as the depth and speed of the water.
- Do not let children or pets play in or near floodwater. Flood water can move up to 30 mph and is filled with hazardous materials such as chemicals, oil and pet waste. Stay out of flood channels and detention basins, which can rise as quickly as one foot a minute.
- Stay out of standing water as well. The dirty water can disguise hazards below the surface, such as deep holes and dangerous debris.
- Do not camp or park your vehicle near washes or channels. Flash floods occur very quickly and can be deadly.
- Listen to the radio or television for additional information as weather conditions change and new reports are received.
- Even if your home is not located in a designated flood zone, severe flooding can still occur in your area. Talk to your insurance agent about obtaining flood insurance, which is available to everyone regardless of whether you live in a flood zone or not.
- Remember, **more** deaths occur in floods than any other weather-related disaster!
- Check the Regional Flood Control District's website at www.regionalflood.org for current rainfall and weather information at approximately 150 locations around the Valley. The site also includes current information about flood zones and flood insurance.