

For Immediate Release

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**Regional Flood Control District
releases new commercials about flood insurance**

With another flash flood season approaching, the Regional Flood Control District wants to make sure that valley residents are prepared. Number one on the checklist may be purchasing flood insurance, which is available to every resident, whether they live in a flood zone or not. Flood insurance also costs a lot less than most people realize.

“Flood insurance is available to every homeowner and renter. Most residents do not live in a flood zone, which means flood insurance coverage is much less expensive,” said Betty Hollister, public information manager for the flood control district.

The District has produced two new :30 second public service announcements that reinforce the message that flood insurance is inexpensive. The average cost of flood insurance for a home not in a flood zone is less than \$500 a year. Depending on the amount of coverage, a policy could cost under \$200 a year.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for mapping and designating flood zones. “A common misconception is that if a home is not in a flood zone it will never be flooded, which isn’t the case,” said Hollister. “And damage by floodwater can easily cost more than \$50,000 for cleanup and repairs.”

Homeowner’s policies do not cover damage caused by flooding, and a separate policy must be purchased. It takes 30 days for flood insurance to take effect. The cost of the policy depends on several factors including where the home is located, when it was built and the amount of coverage.

For more information about flood insurance or to be referred to a local agent, call FEMA at 1-888-CALL-FLOOD. Residents can call the District at 455-3139 or visit our website at www.regionalflood.org to determine if their home is in a flood zone.

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