

# FLOODS AND FLASH FLOODS



## Areas of Focus

Flood Facts

Flood Insurance

Prepare, Respond, Recovery and Mitigation

## Wednesday's Focus

Floods are the most common natural disaster in the United States. They may occur from the result of rain, snow, coastal storms, storm surges, and overflows of dams and other water systems.

Floods develop either slowly or quickly. Flash floods can come with no warning. They can also cause outages, disrupt transportation, damage buildings, and create landslides.

### Flood Facts

Nationally, floods claim nearly 200 lives each year, force 300,000 people from their homes, and result in property damage in excess of \$2 billion. In 2019, six out of the nine state and federally-declared disasters in Minnesota involved some sort of flooding.

About 75 percent of flash-flood deaths occur at night. Half of the victims die in automobiles or other vehicles. Many deaths occur when people drive around road barricades that clearly indicate that the road is washed out ahead.

[National Weather Service Flood Safety Tips](#)



FLOOD ALERT



FLOOD WARNING



SEVERE FLOOD WARNING



### BUY FLOOD INSURANCE

Learn your flood risk and find an agent near you with the One-Step Flood Risk Profile at [FloodSmart.gov](#). Typically, it takes 30 days for a new flood insurance policy to take effect, so get or renew your policy now.



### KNOW YOUR STUFF

Thoroughly document your belongings to support a flood insurance claim. Visit [knowyourstuff.org](#) to create your home inventory.



### MAKE A PLAN

Create and share a family emergency plan. Make sure it includes evacuation routes from home, work, and school. Assemble a safety kit with drinking water, canned food, first aid supplies, blankets, a radio, and a flashlight. Learn more at [ready.gov/floods](#).

## Preparation, Response, Recovery and Mitigation-Stearns County

### Preparation

- Plan to help save lives and help response and rescue operations.
- Create an evacuation plan.
- Stock food and water.

### Response

- Putting your preparedness plan into action to save lives and prevent further property damage.
- Seek shelter

### Recovery

- Taking action to try and return to a normal and safe situation after the emergency.
- Get financial assistance to help pay for repairs.

### Mitigation

- Purchase flood insurance.
- Any other activities that prevent or reduce the chance of an emergency occurring.

