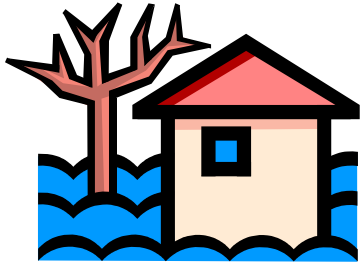


## Plan ahead for Floods



Find out if you live in a floodprone area. Ask whether your property is above or below the flood water level and learn about the history of flooding for your region.

▶ **Plan and practice an evacuation route.**

Individuals living in flash flood areas should have several alternate routes.

Have disaster supplies on hand for easy access. Build a disaster supply kit with a battery-powered radio, flashlight with extra batteries, bottled water, first aid kit, non-perishable food, medications, and other items like diapers.

**Prepare for the next flood.**

Protect yourself from the next flood with flood insurance, a flood response plan and community flood protection programs.

## After the Flood

Protect yourself and your family from the stress, fatigue, and health hazards that follow a flood.

- **Dry out your home.** Floodwaters damage most materials and leave mud, silt and unknown contaminants that promote the growth of mold and mildew.
- **Restore the utilities.** The rest of your work will be much easier if you have heat, electricity, clean water, and sewage disposal.
- **Clean up.** The walls, floors, closets, shelves, contents, and any other flooded parts of your home should be thoroughly washed and disinfected.
- **Rebuild and floodproof.** Take your time to rebuild correctly and make improvements that will protect your building from damage by the next flood. Learn how to floodproof your home by elevating it above the flood level (BFE—Base Flood Elevation).
- **Inquire about available funds to relocate.** There are grant programs to mitigate structures in a floodprone area.
- **Purchase flood insurance.** Learn about the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Home owner's insurance does not cover flood damage.

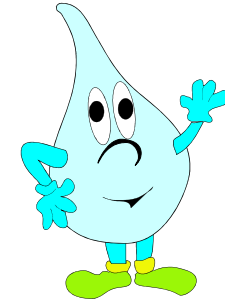


OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 8101  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101-8101  
[www.okflood.org](http://www.okflood.org)  
[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

This public awareness brochure was created and printed in part by funds obtained from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN  
MANAGERS ASSOCIATION



Freddie Floodway wants  
**YOU** to be  
**Flood Smart**

▶ **Flood Safety  
In  
Oklahoma**

**Flash floods are the number one cause for weather-related deaths in the United States. An average of 100 people a year lose their lives in floods nationwide, with flood damage averaging more than \$2 billion.**

For additional information on how YOU can prevent flooding, check out these web sites:  
[www.okflood.org](http://www.okflood.org) and [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

# FLOOD SAFETY TIPS



Protect yourself  
and your family  
**BE PREPARED**

**STAY INFORMED** Turn on a battery operated radio or television to get the latest emergency information. Continue listening to the radio for news about what to do, where to go, and places to avoid.

**IF ADVISED TO EVACUATE, DO SO IMMEDIATELY.** Evacuation is much safer before the floodwaters come.

**DO NOT DRIVE THROUGH FLOODWATER** Two feet of moving water can sweep your car away. The road may have unseen damage. Most flood related deaths are caused by people driving through storm water.

**TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN.**

**AVOID WALKING THROUGH FLOODWATER** Swiftly moving six inch deep water can sweep you off your feet.

**STAY AWAY FROM POWER LINES AND ELECTRIC WIRES** The number two killer after drowning is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to a power company.

**BE ALERT FOR GAS LEAKS.** Do not smoke or burn candles or lanterns. Gas is easily ignited. In a flood, be sure your gas is turned off by the gas company.

**LOOK OUT FOR ANIMALS, ESPECIALLY SNAKES.** Small animals may seek shelter in your home.

## Be Floodwise when Landscaping

Landscape so that surface water is directed away from your home. Do not fill flowerbeds so that the surface level is at or above your finished floor. Do not raise the level of your yard above your neighbor's. The storm water on your property will flood your neighbor. Drainage ditches are designed to carry water from your property and the property of your neighbor. They are part of a drainage system. Do not fill in the drainage ditch on your property. Freddie knows it will help you mow, but it will also cause flooding. Do not dump or throw anything into a drainage ditch. Grass clippings, branches, cuttings, leaves, trash, etc. will restrict the flow of storm water and plug the drainage system. Keep drainage ditches mowed and free from debris. Clean out culverts on your property and remove all silt so culverts can move storm water at maximum capacity.

## EVERYONE IS AT RISK Get the Facts. Be Flood Smart.

In all 50 states...on coasts, mountains, along rivers, in the desert...in towns and cities of every size...floods happen.

The most important thing you can do to protect yourself from financial loss is to have flood insurance. Floods can also pose life-threatening risks to you and your family.

So be smart.  **FLOODSMART.GOV**  
An official site of the National Flood Insurance Program

Be Flood Smart. Be prepared for anything nature sends your way. You are eligible to purchase flood insurance as long as your community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). It takes 30 days after purchase for a policy to take effect, so it's important to buy insurance before the floodwaters start to rise.

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You've done everything in your power to prepare for a flood. You've secured a flood insurance policy, and made your home flood-ready. Congratulations! You've become "Flood Smart".