



# Flash Flood Alert

HS99-501D (09-10)

A 5-Minute Safety Training Aid

Flash floods can strike any time and any place with little or no warning. In mountainous or flat terrain, distant rain may be channeled into gullies and ravines, turning a quiet stream side campsite or wash into a rampaging torrent in minutes. City streets can become rivers in seconds.

**Flash Flood Watch** means it is possible that rains will cause flash flooding in the specified area. Be alert and prepared for a flood emergency.

**Flash Flood Warning** means flash flooding is occurring or is imminent in the specified area. Move to safe ground immediately.

Observe these flash flood safety rules. They could save your life.

- Keep alert for signs of heavy rain (thunder and lightning), both where you are and upstream. Watch for rising water levels.
- Know where high ground is and get there quickly if you see or hear rapidly rising water.
- Be especially cautious at night. It's harder to recognize the danger then.
- Do not attempt to walk across or drive through flooded areas or roadways. You will not know the depth of the water.
- Don't try to drive through flooded areas.
- If your vehicle stalls, abandon it and seek higher ground immediately.
- During threatening weather listen to commercial radio or NOAA Weather Radio, or watch television for Watch and Warning Bulletins.



Photo by Bob McMillan/ FEMA News Photo

***Remember to practice safety.  
Don't learn it by accident.***

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI-DWC) also offers several severe weather free safety publication online at <http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/safety/videoresources/index.html>, including: Driving in the Rain, Hurricane Preparation Fact Sheet, Severe Weather Action Planning Safety Training Program, and Tornado Safety

TDI-DWC features a free occupational safety and health audiovisual loan library. Call 512-804-4620 for more information or visit our website at [www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html](http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html).

This Take 5 for Safety was published with information from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and TDI-DWC and is considered accurate at the time of publication.