

Know the Difference Flood Watch vs. Flood Warning

Floods are among the most frequent and costly natural disasters. Conditions that cause floods include heavy or steady rain for several hours or days that saturates the ground. Flash floods occur suddenly due to rapidly rising water along a stream or low-lying areas.

What's the difference?

Flood/Flash Flood Watch — Flooding or flash flooding is possible in your area.

Flood/Flash Flood Warning — Flooding or flash flooding is already occurring or will occur soon in your area.

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- ❑ Be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice.
 - ❑ When a flood or flash flood warning is issued for your area, head for higher ground and stay there.
 - ❑ If you come upon a flooded road while driving, turn around don't drown.
 - ❑ Include rain gear in your kit.
 - ❑ Include map(s) of the area in your kit.
 - ❑ Insect repellent and sunscreen
 - ❑ Keep children out of the water.
 - ❑ Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood danger.
 - ❑ Because standard homeowners insurance doesn't cover flooding, it's important to have protection from the floods associated with hurricanes, tropical storms, heavy rains and other conditions.
- ### BEFORE RETURNING HOME
- ❑ Look outside for loose power lines, damaged gas lines, foundation cracks or other damage.
 - ❑ Parts of your home may be collapsed or damaged. Approach entrances carefully.
 - ❑ Do not use water that could be contaminated to wash dishes, brush teeth, prepare food, wash hands, make ice or make baby formula.