Quick Guide to Safety
Before, During, and After
FLOODS

**RESOURCES**

- Governor's Office of Emergency Services
  CalOES.ca.gov
  State guides, alerts, and resources

- CalAlerts.org
  Sign up for local emergency alerts

- Dial 2-1-1
  Find safe evacuation routes and shelters

- California Department of Public Health
  tinyurl.com/floodrecover
  Flood recovery guide on sanitation and hazards

- ListosCalifornia.org
  Disaster readiness, response and recovery

- Ready.gov
  ready.gov/recovering-disaster
  Federal guidance on recovery and safety

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**5 STEPS TO PREPARE FOR ANY DISASTER**

**STEP 1. GET ALERTS**
Sign up for warnings at CalAlerts.org

**STEP 2. MAKE A PLAN**
Discuss how loved ones will evacuate and reconnect

**STEP 3. PACK A GO BAG**
Pack important documents ahead of time. Be ready to grab keys, wallet, phone/charger, medication and personal items

**STEP 4. MAKE A STAY BOX**
Pack supplies for 3 days at home with no water or power: food that won’t spoil, water, plastic bags/bucket for toilet, flashlight, radio and batteries

**STEP 5. HELP OTHERS**
Be ready to assist those who need help
### BEFORE A FLOOD
- Move valuables to higher shelves or floors.
- Keep nearby storm drains clear of debris.
- Get plastic tarps and sandbags to block floodwater.
- Learn the best escape route to higher ground.
- Plan transportation to get everyone, including pets and livestock, to safety.
- Keep your car’s gas tank at least half full.
- Plan for power outages, especially for any medical devices powered by electricity and refrigerated medicines. Charge devices and backup batteries.
- Be ready to shelter in place with some gallon jugs of water, food you could eat if there is no power, and other items that you use every day.
- Talk to neighbors about how you could work together to help keep each other safe.

### DURING A FLOOD
- Follow reliable sources of information. Dial 2-1-1 or 3-1-1 to get help, find shelter, or ask questions.
- Leave immediately when told by officials to go.
- Never walk into moving water. Just six inches of moving water can make you fall.
- Never drive into flooded areas. A foot of water will float many vehicles; two feet can sweep away a truck.
- If trapped inside by floodwaters, move to higher floors or roof, but not attics. Call 9-1-1.
- Avoid contact with floodwater.
- Stay alert for mudslides near burn scars.

### AFTER A FLOOD
- Check in with family, friends, and neighbors. If cell towers are down or overrun, try texting.
- Wait until officials say it is safe to go home. If you can’t go home, dial 2-1-1 to find safe shelter.
- Beware of falling trees and damaged structures.
- Check for gas leaks and downed power lines. If gas or electrical appliances were flooded, check them for safety before using.
- Listen for official announcements on the safety of public water. Wells that flooded should be tested and disinfected.
- Be aware potential hazardous chemicals may have been moved or buried by flooding.
- If you have flood damage, contact your local emergency manager. Find other recovery resources on government websites.

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**EVACUATION WARNING** = Serious threat. Get ready or go now if people or animals need extra time.

**EVACUATION ORDER** = Leave immediately. Your life is in danger.