

Tips on flash floods



More people lose their LIVES in floods than in any other weather-related event. 80% of flood deaths occur in vehicles, and most happen when drivers make a single, fatal mistake - trying to navigate through flood waters.

Watch for the following signs:

- Unusual hard rain over several hours
- Steady substantial rain over several days
- Rains in conjunction with a spring thaw
- Water rising rapidly in streams and rivers

DO NOT DRIVE THROUGH FLOODED AREAS! Even if it looks shallow enough to cross.

- NEVER drive or let anyone drive through flood waters! If the vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- NEVER drive into water covering the road. You do not know how deep it is or if the road is washed away.
- Be cautious, especially at night when visibility is impaired.

IF OUTDOORS

- If flash flood is likely, get to higher ground immediately! You cannot outrun a flash flood.
- Keep out of places that are likely to flood such as ditches or dry stream beds.
- Avoid already flooded areas and high velocity flow areas
- Never attempt to run across flooding water when the water is above your ankles.
- Do not walk into or near high water.
- Keep children from drainage ditches and stormwater drains.

Report any incidents related to JMPD, SAPS, City of Joburg's call centre on 0860JOBURG (562874).

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