



TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HACKENSACK
227 PHILLIPS AVE
SOUTH HACKENSACK NJ 07606
201-440-1815 ext. 165
201-440-0719 FAX



FLOODS AND FLOODING

Floods occur regularly across the country, causing evacuations, widespread damage and even death. Those living near waterways or other low-lying areas are most at risk, but anyone in a community susceptible to flooding can be affected. Hazards range from potentially deadly flash flooding to water contamination due to broken gasoline or sewer lines.

Terms to Know!

Flood Watch:	Flooding is possible within 12 to 36 hours.
Flash Flood Watch:	Flash Flooding is possible and could occur without warning. Prepare to move to a higher ground if you are at risk. Listen to radio and television stations or NOAA weather radio for warnings and reports of flooding.
Flood Warning:	Flooding is or soon will be occurring. Evacuate immediately if advised.
Flash Flood Warning:	Flash flooding is occurring. Move to higher ground at once if you are at risk. Save yourself and those who depend on you quickly. Do not attempt to cross a flooded stream on foot where water is above your knees. Do not drive your vehicle through water. If your vehicle stalls, evacuate all passengers immediately to higher ground. Rising waters may sweep the vehicle away causing potentially deadly consequences.



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Before a Flood:

Consider purchasing flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program. Regular homeowners or renters insurance does not cover flood losses.

Have a safety kit with drinking water, a first aid kit, canned food, a battery operated radio, flashlight and blankets.

Know evacuation routes, from home, school, work or while on vacation.

Protect your property, move your furnace, water heater and electric panel to higher floors.

Install “check valves” in sewer traps to prevent water from backing up into your home.

Waterproof your basement walls to stop seepage.

Build barriers such as flood walls or levees to keep floodwaters out.

During a Flood:

If flooding occurs, move to higher ground. Get out of the area.

Avoid areas already flooded, especially if the water is flowing fast.

Roadbeds may be washed out under flood waters.

Never drive through flooded waterways.

Never walk through moving water more than 6 inches deep.

Stayed tuned to radio and television for updates.

Evacuate if instructed to by authorities and return home when safe to do so.



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After a Flood:

Be careful in areas where flood waters have receded.

Do not walk through water in bare feet. Wear shoes

Watch for downed electrical wires and weakened roadways and bridges.

Stay out of flooded buildings, use caution when entering damaged structures their foundation could have been weakened by the floodwaters.

Avoid coming in contact with floodwater, it may be contaminated. Wash hands and feet immediately.

Do not turn electricity back on in your home or business if you detect gas or if the electric system has been flooded.

Discard any food that has been in contact with floodwaters.

Clean and disinfect everything that was touched by floodwaters or mudflows

Follow directions from officials.

Many time during heavy rains and flooding landslides may occur, beware and look for changes in landscaping, leaning trees, poles or fences: widening cracks in the driveway or street: or ground bulging out at the base of slope or hill. While driving watch for falling rocks and mud in the roadway. Move quickly away, if you are unable to get out of the way curl into a ball and protect your head.

Further information may be obtained by checking www.ready.nj.gov



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