



Cathedral City

www.cathedralcityfire.org

Fire Department

WHEN IT RAINS, IT FLOODS!



Floods are one of the most severe weather events that can occur and a top reason for weather related deaths. In fact, floods are considered billion dollar weather disasters. Just six inches of fast-moving water can sweep an adult off their feet (even less for those who are disabled or young children).

YOUR CAR IS NO MATCH FOR SWIFT RUNNING WATER!

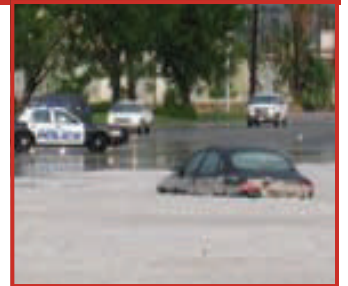
TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN! If you think you are safe in your truck or sport utility vehicle, think again. 2 feet of water is all that's needed to carry your car away. Obey road closures!

The National Weather Service has a campaign to education people around the world of the dangers of flooding. In fact, **TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!** is a trademarked slogan for flood safety. Visit their website at <http://www.weather.gov/os/water/tadd>



AFTER THE RAIN, HAZARDS STILL EXIST:

Although floodwaters may be down in some areas, many dangers still exist. Remember that flood conditions change rapidly and severe flooding can develop in minutes. The Coachella Valley is just that—a valley. Nature leaves us susceptible to run-off from local hills and mountains. Once the rain stops, water from higher ground runs off to lower ground causing flash floods. Flood water levels can be much deeper than they appear.



Follow these safety rules:

- If flooding occurs, get to higher ground. Stay away from flood-prone areas, including dips, low spots, valleys, ditches, washes, etc.
- Avoid rapid water flow. Do not attempt to cross a flowing stream. Remember, it takes only six inches of fast flowing water to sweep you off your feet.
- Don't allow children to play near high water, storm drains or ditches. Hidden dangers could lie beneath the water.
- Flooded roads could have significant damage hidden by floodwaters. NEVER drive through floodwaters or on flooded roads. If your vehicle stalls, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Do not camp or park your vehicle along streams and washes, particularly when threatening conditions exist.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.
- Monitor a NOAA Weather Radio or your local media for vital weather related information.
- If you see someone stranded in flood waters, call 9-1-1 and wait for rescue workers to arrive. Many flood-related fatalities occur when bystanders attempt a rescue. Leave it to the professionals that have extensive swift water rescue training and proper equipment.

For more safety tips, visit our website at www.cathedralcityfire.org