

Emergency Preparedness Pointer

March 2016

NATIONAL FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

Flooding causes more damage than any other weather event in the United States. It can happen in any of the 50 states and occurs during every season. The average cost of flooding events is \$8.3 billion per year. National Flood Safety Awareness Week will be from [March 28th through April 1st](#). The National Weather Service Forecast Office in Boise and Ada County Emergency Management will be promoting flood preparedness activities during this week. Being prepared for flooding events requires you to know your risk, take action, and share what you know with friends, neighbors, and family. Watching the local forecast, creating a 72-hour kit, and monitoring social media for flood related information are great ways to stay informed about flooding in our area.

LEARN YOUR FLOOD RISK

Do you know how much damage your house could sustain during a flood? Ada County Emergency Management and the National Weather Service in Boise will be providing flood risk information at two events during National Flood Safety Awareness Week:

- The Village in Meridian on **Tuesday March 29th from 5:30 PM to 8 PM**
- Boise Towne Square on **Saturday, April 2nd from 11 AM to 2 PM** near center court

We will have a HAZUS computer disaster model available for residents to see if their homes are located in a flood area, and estimate the potential damages from a major flood. There will be take-home information available on flooding and other hazards within our community. We encourage you to bring your friends and family to learn about possible flooding hazards in our community and how you can be better prepared.



PREPARE YOUR HOME

Once you know your flood risk, there are several steps you can take to better protect your home and property from specific flood damages:

1. Installation of check-valves in your home's plumbing will prevent flood water from backing up into the drains inside your home.
2. Create a household inventory list of major items.
3. Mark all circuit breakers and fuses for each area of your home.
4. Check to make sure you have adequate flood insurance since standard homeowners insurance does not cover flood damages. Most flood insurance policies take at least 30 days to be effective. Be sure to purchase flood insurance long before an expected flooding event.

During a flood, do not go into basements or rooms where flood waters are covering the electrical outlets or cords are submerged. Do not walk through flood water outdoors. It only takes 6 inches of water to knock you off of your feet. If you must leave, obey all posted evacuation orders. Do not drive into flooded roadways or around barricades. Many times water is deeper than it appears, and it only takes 12 inches of moving water to float a car or small SUV. **Turn Around, Don't Drown!** For additional flood and preparedness information, visit our website at

<https://adacounty.id.gov/accem/How-to-Prepare-Resources/Flood>

