

Flood and Hurricane Emergency Plans

Some areas of North Carolina are more susceptible to major flooding than others, but as *ReadyNC* points out, “You should know that anywhere it rains, it can flood.” As rainfall begins to pick up in the early spring and as hurricane season begins in the summer, make sure that...

- You have an *Emergency Kit*.
- You have a *Family Communication Plan* in case you are separated when the flood or hurricane begins.
- You have an *Escape Plan* and a meeting place for your home.

How to make a Flood/Hurricane Escape Plan:

1. Determine a meeting place for the family, different than the location mentioned in your Fire Escape Safety Plan. It must be far enough away from the house to escape the floodwaters.
2. Having a local or “neighborhood” meetup spot in addition to one outside of town is a good idea in case the local spot becomes flooded as well.
 - a. For a hurricane, this location may have to be much farther away or even out of state (perhaps with a family member or even a hotel farther inland).
 - i. In areas where flooding and hurricanes are more common, there are often designated “Evacuation Routes.” You can look online to find maps specific to your area to see which routes are recommended.
 - ii. Marking locations and directions to each meeting place should also be done *on paper or on a printed map*, in case electronics are damaged by water or the power is out when devices need to be charged.

If you are vacating your home when there is flooding, please remember...

- **6 inches (½ foot)** of fast-moving flood water can knock an adult off their feet.
- **12 inches (1 foot)** of rushing water can float and carry away most cars.
- **24 inches (2 feet)** of rushing water can carry away SUVs and trucks.

*This is why it is important to map out **more than one evacuation route** when making your *Emergency Plan*!*